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# 101 Puppy Mills: A Sampling of Problem Puppy Mills in the United States

The Humane Society of the United States

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# 101 Puppy Mills

## A Sampling of Problem Puppy Mills in the United States

Almost four years after Missouri voters approved a stronger puppy mill law in 2010, the state still dominates a list of 101 problem puppy mills across the country. 22 of the 101 dealers on our 2014 list of problem puppy mills are from Missouri. Coming in second, Kansas has 13 problem dealers on the list, followed by Nebraska (12), Arkansas (6) and Iowa (6).



USDA inspectors photographed a Yorkie with an eye disorder at a facility owned by Andy Troyer in Fredericksburg, Ohio, in 2011 after the operator repeatedly failed to get adequate treatment for the dog. Additional problems were found at the same facility in 2014. /USDA 2011.

**Most of the facilities in this report have been cited by federal or state inspectors for grave or repeated animal care violations, including:**

- A breeder in Missouri who admitted to leaving a gravely injured and nearly unresponsive Pomeranian named “Woofie” lingering for three days without taking him to a vet (Johanna Steele);
- Four breeders who listed gunshot as a method of euthanasia on their official veterinary plans (Barker in AR; Mamma’s Minis in CO; Tietz and Williams in NE);
- A breeder in Illinois who had five beagles euthanized rather than providing them with warmer shelter as directed by his inspector (Melton Christiansen);
- A breeder in Missouri who was found with a dead, four-week-old shih tzu puppy frozen solid in the outdoor portion of an enclosure when overnight temperatures had recently been as low as -9 degrees (Johnny Dake);
- Breeders who left their dogs exposed to heat indexes as high as 109 degrees or bitter cold temperatures as low as one degree Fahrenheit (Hines in SD; Pesek in NE);

- A breeder in Missouri who admitted to slaughtering downed cattle (cows unable to walk and who could be ill) from a local slaughterhouse in order to feed the raw meat to her dogs; rotting meat infested with maggots was found in her kennels (Barbara Neubert); and
- A breeder in Nebraska (listed in our appendix because she was in last year's Horrible Hundred report), who was found with no fewer than 54 dogs in need of veterinary care during a single USDA inspection (Linda Hager).

The goal of the report is to inform consumers about widespread problems with puppy mills before they make an uninformed purchase that could potentially support animal cruelty. The report includes puppy mills from 22 states, but because most of the dealers sell online or to pet stores, their puppies could be available to unwary consumers in all 50 states and beyond.

The news isn't all bad. Part of the reason Missouri is high on the list of problem dealers is because state inspectors appear to be documenting problems at substandard kennels more carefully under the Canine Cruelty Prevention Act, which replaced a voter-approved ballot measure, Prop B (The Puppy Mill Cruelty Prevention Act), in 2011. Although the Canine Cruelty Prevention Act is not as strong as Prop B, it does require higher standards of care at commercial breeding kennels than Missouri had five years ago. Greater progress is being made on the regulatory front in many other states as well, with stronger laws passed in 28 states over the past five years, and a long-awaited new USDA rule finalized in September 2013. This rule requires commercial breeders in every state who sell puppies and kittens online sight-unseen to be federally licensed and inspected.

Partly as a result of greater public scrutiny and stronger laws, it appears that 15 of the problem puppy mills identified in last year's Horrible Hundred report have closed their doors<sup>1</sup>. But this new report shows that there is still no shortage of substandard puppy mills. Regulation alone cannot put an end to puppy mills; they will end for good only when consumers stop buying their puppies and insist on dealing only with animal shelters, breed rescues or small responsible breeders they have met in person<sup>2</sup>.

The breeders and sellers on this list represent common issues with puppy mills and puppy mill brokers. **This report is not a complete list of all puppy mills, nor a list of all problematic facilities.** For more information on the methodology used in preparing this report, please see the Methodology section on page 29.

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<sup>1</sup> Since the 2013 report was published, approximately 15 of the puppy mills on the list appear to have closed or dropped their licenses. Approximately the same number of dealers appears to have come into current compliance with basic animal welfare laws. But more than half of the dealers in the 2013 report have continued to rack up troubling new violations. See appendix for details.

<sup>2</sup> For more information on how to find a responsible breeder and purchase a puppy without supporting puppy mills, please visit [www.humanesociety.org/puppy](http://www.humanesociety.org/puppy).

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## 101 Problem Puppy Mills

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### ARKANSAS

- **Edward and Wanda Barker, Drycreek Kennel, Maynard, AR – “Euthanasia plan” was to shoot dogs.** Although its most recent inspection in January 2014 was compliant, USDA inspectors found serious problems at Drycreek Kennel at four inspections in a row in 2013. In November 2013, a USDA inspector noted that the breeder had a written euthanasia plan in which “.22 shot by owner” was listed as the method of euthanasia. Underweight and ill dogs were also found repeatedly at inspections in 2013, including dogs suffering from hair loss, oozing sores and eye and skin disorders. USDA inspectors also noted that some of the dogs were found without adequate protection from the cold when overnight temperatures had been below freezing. USDA # 71-A-0923.
- **Desiree and Lee Bogan, Bogan Ranch & Kennels, New Hope, AR – Two official warnings from USDA and repeat violations.** During multiple inspections over a period of more than three years, the USDA cited this facility for repeated problems with animal care and sick animals, including dogs with severe ear infections, badly matted dogs and dogs with moldy food and dirty water. During one USDA inspection in April 2013 alone, thirteen different problems were found, including a dog with “a thick accumulation of blackish colored material” in his ear who was seen repeatedly shaking his head, five severely matted dogs, excessive feces, “wet, caked and moldy food” and filthy conditions. In July 2013 and September 2013, the USDA issued an official warning to the Bogans for unsafe housing, dirty conditions and a lack of adequate veterinary care. USDA #71-A-0962.
- **Carolyn and Philip Hadley, G R R Acres, Springdale, AR – Puppy with one missing and one crippled leg had not been examined by a vet.** USDA inspectors found dogs in need of medical care at G R R Acres during inspections in 2013, 2012 and 2011. In January 2013, several dogs were found to be “heavily matted” to the point where the mats had formed into “balls and ropes.” In January 2012, inspectors found a puppy with one crippled leg and one missing leg who had not been examined by a vet, and additional dogs were found to be excessively matted. In 2011, six animals were found with heavily matted hair which had “formed into balls and ropes” and the USDA’s veterinary medical officer noted that “dirt and debris” and in some cases feces were intertwined with the matted hair, which “can be painful and can increase the likelihood of external pests.” USDA # 71-A-0494.
- **Barbara and Sonny Hearne, Back Forty Kennels, Sulphur Springs, AR – “Extremely underweight” dog found in kennel; multiple repeat USDA violations for improper veterinary care.** Three times in 2013, USDA inspectors cited Back Forty Kennels with repeat violations for animals in need of veterinary care, including dogs with signs of eye and dental infections, and an “extremely underweight” adult Yorkie (4/30/13) whose “spine was visible and palpable” and who had no teeth and no food in his bowl at the time of inspection. Dogs were also found with “severely matted” hair and nails that were so long that they were curving back toward the underside of the paws, according to USDA records. In May 2013, The USDA gave the kennel an official warning for failure to maintain an adequate program of veterinary care. USDA #71-A-0892.
- **Bill Nored, Dryfork Kennel, Prim, AR – Dead puppy had not received veterinary care.** At Dryfork Kennel’s most recent USDA inspection in October 2013, the inspector found a dead 8-week-old puppy. When asked about the puppy, the owner admitted the puppy had been sick for two days but had not been taken to a vet. During the same inspection, the inspector noted that the breeding dogs were caged in two trailers. The first trailer had “a strong ammonia [urine] smell which burnt the eyes and throat to the point of coughing.” In the second trailer, dogs were found living in almost total darkness. The kennel has had numerous violations in prior years as well. In May 2011, a USDA inspector noted that, in

addition to issues with the health of some of the breeding dogs in cages, there were 12-14 large ‘hunting dogs’ running loose, nine of whom were “extremely thin to the point of ribs, hips and spinal column protruding.” Some of the dogs were limping and one had an open wound. USDA # 71-B-0170.


- **Leon Walthall and Peggy Van Huss, Wagging Tails Kennel, Siloam Springs, AR – Extremely underweight dog; repeatedly cited for unsanitary conditions.** In May 2013, USDA inspectors found three dogs in need of veterinary care at Wagging Tails Kennel, including a male Chihuahua who was “extremely underweight” with his spine and ribs clearly visible. The dog had no teeth left and had only dry kibble in his food bowl, according to the inspector. A second dog had hair loss and crusted lesions on the ears and a third had an eye that was discolored and bulging. The licensee was instructed to get veterinary care for the three dogs. When the USDA went back to check on the dogs two days later, the inspector reported: “two of the animals are no longer on the premises” but that the third had received treatment. There was no mention of what had happened to the two missing sick dogs. Wagging Tails Kennel has been cited for additional sick animals in the past, and has also been repeatedly cited for unsanitary conditions, including violations in 2013, 2011, 2010, and 2008. In 2010, the USDA gave the operators an official warning for failure to provide vet care, unsanitary housing conditions, and dirty feeders. USDA # 71-A-1134.

## CALIFORNIA

- **Janet Barreto, current address unknown – Puppy seller wanted for homicide.** Barreto is currently on the U.S. Marshals Service’s 15 Most Wanted List in connection to the homicide death of a toddler. She has operated puppy mills in California and Mississippi, and the U.S. Marshals Service believes she and her husband, Ramon, may still be selling puppies through flea markets or classified ads. The pair was last seen in California but could be anywhere now. The U.S. Marshals Service has a reward for information that leads to Barreto’s arrest. For more information see:

[humanesociety.org/news/press\\_releases/2013/12/fugitive-wanted-for-connections-to-puppy-mills-and-homicide-of-toddler-121213.html#.Uqni3uKloVA](http://humanesociety.org/news/press_releases/2013/12/fugitive-wanted-for-connections-to-puppy-mills-and-homicide-of-toddler-121213.html#.Uqni3uKloVA).


- **Ginger Turk (alias Ginger Hunter), La Chic Puppy, aka Teacup Puppy Couture, El Dorado Hills, CA – Felony forgery charges related to imported puppies after puppy died from Parvovirus.** Ginger Turk has used many different business names, all of them linked to tiny, high-priced imported Korean puppies. Currently Turk appears to be linked to two websites, [lachicpuppy.com](http://lachicpuppy.com) and [teacuppuppycouture.com](http://teacuppuppycouture.com), and a string of consumer complaints seems to follow her wherever she goes. In 2011, Ginger Turk was charged with multiple felony forgery charges after a woman purchased a sick puppy online for Turk. The puppy, Sophie, died of Parvovirus within a few days. The buyer then contacted the veterinarian who appeared to have signed her puppy’s health documents, only to be told the documents were apparently forged. Court documents show that numerous other complainants reported that puppies they purchased from Turk had died of Parvovirus. A local news station reported the story:



U.S. Department of Justice  
United States Marshals Service

MOST WANTED

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<p><b>Name:</b> Janet Killough BARRETO  <b>Alias:</b> Janet KILLOUGH, Janet TORRES, Jeanie SEALE, Dealie HARRIS, Victoria LOPEZ, Vicky LOPEZ, Vicky ULLOA, Vicky CHRISTIAN, Vicky SMITH, Vicky Sara ULLOA</p> <p><b>Description:</b>  Sex: .....FEMALE  Race: .....WHITE  Date of Birth: .....AUGUST 8, 1975  Place of Birth: .....MISSISSIPPI  Height: .....5' 06"  Weight: .....300 POUNDS  Eyes: .....BROWN  Hair: .....BLACK (Notable wig wearer)  Skintone: .....FAIR  Scars/Tattoos: .....UNKNOWN</p> <p><b>Wanted For:</b> .....Unlawful Flight to Avoid Prosecution (Manslaughter)  <b>Warrant Issued:</b> .....Northern District of Mississippi, Oxford  <b>Warrant Number:</b> .....1342-1013-0125-F  <b>Date of Warrant:</b> .....October 12, 2012</p>	 <p>Photo Date: 2009</p>
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**Original Charge:** Failure to Appear at trial on Child Neglect (6 counts), Child Abuse (3 counts), Manslaughter (Child), and Tampering with a Witness

The United States Marshals Service is assisting the Union County Sheriff's Department in New Albany, MS in locating and arresting Janet BARRETO and her husband, Ramon BARRETO, who is also wanted for the same offenses. Janet & Ramon BARRETO were on \$450,000 bond for these offenses when they fled in 2009. They have had several close calls with law enforcement while using aliases and fled before their true identities were discovered. Janet BARRETO is a Diabetic and known to change her appearance using wigs.

**REWARD:** A reward of up to \$25,000 is offered for information leading directly to BARRETO's arrest.

**NOTICE:** Before arrest, verify warrant through the National Crime Information Center (NCIC). If subject is arrested or whereabouts known, contact the nearest U.S. Marshals Service office, American Embassy/Consulate, or call the U.S. Marshals Service Communications center at 1-800-336-0102.

Have a tip? E-mail: [usms.wanted@usdoj.gov](mailto:usms.wanted@usdoj.gov)

For more information, see the U.S. Marshals Service website: [www.usmarshals.gov](http://www.usmarshals.gov)



[news10.net/news/article/168211/2/Folsom-police-seek-forgery-charges-for-puppy-broker](http://news10.net/news/article/168211/2/Folsom-police-seek-forgery-charges-for-puppy-broker) and: [archive.news10.net/news/pdf/people\\_v\\_ginger\\_turk.pdf](http://archive.news10.net/news/pdf/people_v_ginger_turk.pdf).

The HSUS has also received complaints about sick puppies allegedly purchased from Turk, and numerous complaints abound in online forums such as [complaintsboard.com](http://complaintsboard.com) and [ripoffreport.com](http://ripoffreport.com). Legislation passed as part of the 2008 Farm Bill prohibits the importation of puppies under six months of age for resale, but the law is currently not being enforced pending regulations that need to be finalized by the USDA. Turk would also require a USDA license to sell large numbers of puppies sight-unseen over the Internet, yet a search of USDA records on 4/02/14 could find no license under the name Ginger Turk and no class A or B licenses for any dog dealers in El Dorado Hills.

## COLORADO

- **Barbara Bowman, Delta, CO – A “horrible odor” and no shelter from the cold.** In February 2014, Colorado state inspectors found animals “in the bitter cold” who did not have enough protection from the elements at Barbara Bowman’s kennel, including breeding females who had recently raised puppies in a heated barn and then were placed outside without being acclimated to the cold. Many other violations were found in August 2013 and again in October 2013, including water containers with “green slime in them,” a “horrible odor in the whelping building” and “terrible sanitation” along with a “lack of ventilation [which] creates a dangerous environment for the dams and puppies,” according to one state inspection report (8/28/13). The facility houses approximately 150 dogs and puppies, including schnauzers, pugs and Australian shepherds. CO facility ID #4476.
- **Momma’s Minis, Holly, CO – Dogs were shot with a .22.** Mama’s Minis sells dachshunds, Chihuahuas and German shepherds online at [mommaminis.com](http://mommaminis.com). The kennel has some violations on its state reports, but not as many as some of the other problem kennels in the state. However, one very disturbing violation caught researchers’ attention: In January 2013, state inspectors noted, “Dogs are shot with a .22 when they need to be euthanized. This is not a form of euthanasia accepted by the American Veterinary Medical Association and is not allowed. Consult your veterinarian for humane, accepted euthanasia methods.” Inspectors also found “filthy” floors and dogs who were wet and walking in feces. CO facility ID #5287.

## GEORGIA

- **Navata Brink, Brinks Puppy Pagoda, Buena Vista, GA – Previously quarantined for infectious disease; sells on [puppyfind.com](http://puppyfind.com).** Georgia Department of Agriculture public records show that Brinks Puppy Pagoda was quarantined due to a suspected Brucellosis outbreak in August 2012 and was under quarantine until April 25, 2013. Brucellosis is a zoonotic infectious disease that can be very difficult to treat. Multiple dogs were euthanized on several occasions after testing positive for the disease, according to state records. The unhealthful conditions were foreshadowed in earlier inspection reports; in March 2012, a state inspector noted serious overcrowding and poor air quality at Brinks Puppy Pagoda, conditions which can contribute to the spread of disease. The inspector’s notes indicated the state had set a limit of 20 dogs in the indoor portion of the facility in 2009 due to poor air quality, but that the limit had been “continuously violated,” with as many as 40-70 animals found inside at subsequent inspections. Despite these repeated warnings, the kennel was up to 155 dogs by August 2012 when it was first quarantined. On the facility’s website, [brinkspuppypagoda.net](http://brinkspuppypagoda.net), the operator claims to be a “small family owned and operated” kennel where puppies are “raised underfoot.” Brinks Puppy Pagoda also advertises on [puppyfind.com](http://puppyfind.com), [petstew.com](http://petstew.com) and [puppycompanion.com](http://puppycompanion.com). GA license ID #3694383.
- **Low Country Kennel, Statesboro, GA – Failed at least three state inspections for unsanitary conditions.** This kennel failed state inspections in 2013 and 2011 due to unsanitary and unsafe conditions. In May 2013 the kennel failed inspection in three areas: structural strength, sanitation and waste disposal. In October 2011 an inspector noted that the septic system was “backed up and overflowing,” “dogs were

laying in fecal material” and the inspector “observed several dogs with flea infestations; upon inspection, inspector’s pants were covered with fleas.” In February 2011, a state inspector went to the facility to follow up on a complaint about a bad odor and noted three violations for similar issues. Photos taken by state inspectors show many of the dogs living in rabbit-hutch like enclosures outside, which is not illegal according to state law, but which is a typical condition at puppy mills. Environmental pollution due to improper waste disposal at puppy mills is also a growing concern. GA license ID #92072.

## ILLINOIS

- **Melton Christiansen, Christiansen Kennels, Poplar Grove, IL – Owner euthanized five beagles after state inspector told him to give them warmer shelter.** Illinois Department of Agriculture records show that the state fined this kennel for disrepair and failure to provide adequate temperature control in



State records indicate that these were two of the five beagles Melton Christiansen chose to have euthanized rather than moving them to a warmer building. /IL Dept of Agriculture, 2013

October 2013 and again found similar violations in November 2013. After being told by state inspectors to move five beagles out of a barn that was too cold for them, the licensee had the animals euthanized instead, according to state records (11/26/13). Last year, complaints poured in to the Illinois Department of Agriculture about Christiansen Kennels, after visitors to the kennel reported seeing dogs in dark barns in small rusty cages that reeked of urine and

feces. Witnesses also reported dogs in the winter cold without enough protection from the elements. Photographs obtained by The HSUS from the state department of agriculture confirm the conditions reported. State inspectors noted that many of the dogs were in “boxes with wire bottoms suspended off the floor” and found some of the dogs in a room with closed windows and inadequate ventilation, yet found the cage size “sufficient” under Illinois’s minimal animal welfare standards. IL state license #5991.

- **Kim Lettier, Lettier Kennel, Caledonia, IL – Dogs in small crates were stacked in garage.** Earlier this year, a witness visited Lettier Kennel and videotaped dogs stacked in small, rusty crates piled in a garage, some of them appearing underweight or injured (Feb. 2014). One of the cages had blood splattered underneath it, as seen on the video tape. When the advocate released the video, citizens and local news media sounded the alarm. The HSUS contacted the Illinois Department of Agriculture for information on the complaints in February 2014 and again in March 2014. Our researchers were told on March 6, 2014 that a current investigation is underway, so state inspection reports could not be released at that time. News sources reported that the breeder was charged with aggravated battery after a Boone County Animal Control employee said she was assaulted while trying to check on conditions at the kennel. [Lettier Kennel, Docket 2014-0119 – [mystateline.com/fulltext-news/d/story/dog-breeder-in-court-reportedly-threatens-proteste/38448/-ZYROfsoDUaluAdeXxWo6Q](http://mystateline.com/fulltext-news/d/story/dog-breeder-in-court-reportedly-threatens-proteste/38448/-ZYROfsoDUaluAdeXxWo6Q)].



News reports include: [mystateline.com/fulltext-news/d/story/caledonia-dog-breeder-under-fire-from-animal-activ/37173/Drpw7-FY4Uejc2rQP\\_JlCw](http://mystateline.com/fulltext-news/d/story/caledonia-dog-breeder-under-fire-from-animal-activ/37173/Drpw7-FY4Uejc2rQP_JlCw).

As of April 2, 2014, the kennel appeared to be closed, and the IL Department of Agriculture reported to The HSUS that it was no longer in operation. However, local sources claim most of the dogs were moved to a relative's home in Tennessee, where a law that protects dogs in large commercial breeding operations is set to expire in June 2014.

## INDIANA

- **Amos Beiler, Williamsburg, IN – Repeat USDA violations for four years in a row.** This kennel has been cited for multiple USDA violations in 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014. In February 2014, the USDA cited Beiler for a repeat violation for failing to obtain adequate veterinary care for a cocker spaniel with “a large amount of black greasy material covering most of the inner surfaces of both ears.” The material was causing redness in the ears and the dog was repeatedly shaking her head. Puppies were also found on wire flooring with 2” openings and were repeatedly getting their legs stuck in the gaps. In October 2013, Beiler was cited for additional repeat violations for failing to obtain adequate veterinary care for two cocker spaniels with eye disorders. Beiler has also been repeatedly cited for failing to clean an excessive accumulation of feces and other unsanitary conditions. USDA #32-A-0305.
- **Jonas Fisher, Playful Paws Kennel and Country Boy Pets LLC, Williamsburg, IN – Owner fined for animal cruelty.** Fisher pled guilty to one count each of obstructing official business and complicity to cruelty to animals in April 2014 for issues related to 60 dogs who were inhumanely transported in a van that broke down earlier in the year. Many of the animals were found sick and injured, and one of them, a golden retriever, reportedly died shortly after being rescued, according to news reports. ([newarkadvocate.com/article/20140402/NEWS01/304020041/Man-pleads-guilty-case-involving-puppies-found-van](http://newarkadvocate.com/article/20140402/NEWS01/304020041/Man-pleads-guilty-case-involving-puppies-found-van)). There are two USDA licenses under two different business names at Fisher's address, Country Boy Pets (dealer license) and Playful Paw Kennel (breeder license). In February 2014 and August 2013, USDA inspectors found numerous problems at Country Boy Pets, including no fewer than 47 puppies who were found stuffed into small cages without adequate space in August, and another 46 in February. Inspectors also found a bulldog with lesions on her eyes who needed veterinary care (Feb. 2014). In September 2012, an inspection of Playful Paw Kennel found six dogs in need of veterinary care and dirty feeders. The HSUS has also received complaints from consumers who reported buying sick puppies from Playful Paws Kennel.

At press time, it was discovered that both USDA licenses were cancelled as of April 2014, but Fisher may still be licensed by the state. Former USDA numbers: 32-A-0403 and 32-B-0215.

## IOWA

- **Carolyn and Julie Arends, Julie's Jewels, Jewell, IA – Puppy's leg was chewed to the bone.** During a state inspection in October 2013, the inspector noted a “very noticeable odor” and dirty conditions at this kennel housing about 80 dogs and puppies. But by far the most horrific violation was a six-week-old puppy whose paw was caught under the pen wall. The inspector stated that “older puppies in the next pen had been chewing on caught paw. Large gash in leg down to bone, puppy appeared very weak.” Adding to this issue was the fact that the licensee did not have a current veterinary inspection as required by state law. Per the inspector, “owners were informed on last inspection (April 2013) [that the] veterinary inspection [was] due as soon as possible [but] have not done so.” State license #8586.
- **Karen Baker, Kute Kozy K, Redding, IA – Filthy conditions, rarely inspected.** This kennel has failed six times since 2011 to give USDA inspectors access to the facility during regular business hours, a repeat violation of the Animal Welfare Act. In between “no access” violations, problems have been found at every inspection since December 2011. After three attempts in 2012 to access the kennel, USDA inspectors were finally given access in October 2012. Problems were found with dirty conditions and lack of protection from the wind and rain for the dogs. In March 2012, the facility was cited for

accumulations of rodent feces, cobwebs, spiders, ants and debris as well as a build-up of fecal wastes several inches deep running along the entire wall of one of the kennels. Similar issues were also noted by USDA inspectors in prior years. USDA #42-A-1383.

- **Fedler Ag Inc., Pee Vine Kennels, West Point, IA – Gravely injured dog entrapped in flooring.** In December 2013, a USDA inspector found an injured bichon at Pee Vine Kennels who seemed acutely ill. She “had a pad caught on the flooring, and the dog had aborted her puppies.” The inspector went on to note that the dog “had shallow breathing, was shivering and had pale, tacky gums and [was] lethargic.” The inspection was stopped so that the licensee could take the dog to the vet immediately. When inspectors returned to the kennel on March 5, 2014, no one was available to let them inspect it, which is a violation. It was not the first time inspectors found problems at the kennel; in June 2013, the USDA cited Pee Vine Kennels for three dogs with evidence of disease or injury to their eyes. USDA #42-A-1428.
- **Rodnie Kelley, Kelley’s Kennel, Kellerton, IA – Veterinary violations affecting both dogs and cats.** Kelley’s Kennel received an official warning from the USDA in April 2013 for repeatedly failing to provide adequate veterinary care, yet in May 2013 and August 2013, even more problems were found by USDA inspectors. The issues affected both dogs and cats at the facility, including two Yorkies with signs of severe dental disease, a cat with “yellow-green discharge” and swelling of her eye, and a Siamese kitten with swollen, red and oozing eyes whom the licensee admitted had had the problem for about a week but had not been treated by a vet. In August 2013, an exposed, live electrical wire was found hanging into the cat kennels, and in January 2013 a cat was found with “a large white and pink bulge on the surface of her eye” and brown crusting on the eyelids. USDA #42-B-0039.
- **Platinum Puppies, West Point, IA – Visited five times by USDA in 2013 but only passed one inspection; puppies in cages so small they could not stand up.** Platinum Puppies is a B dealer, otherwise known as a broker or re-seller, which is licensed to purchase puppies from other breeders and resell them to pet stores. Platinum Puppies has failed three times over the last few years to give access to inspectors who arrived to conduct a USDA inspection. It did pass one inspection in October 2013, but at four other inspections that same year, USDA inspectors either weren’t given access to the property or found violations, including multiple problems with selling animals from undocumented sources (possibly unlicensed puppy mills). In February 2014, the kennel was cited for transporting puppies without adequate veterinary records. In February 2013 a USDA inspector found that 21 different litters of puppies had been purchased by Platinum Puppies from undocumented and possibly unlicensed sellers. By law, a B dealer that sells dogs to pet stores must obtain the puppies from licensed breeders or obtain proof that the breeder was exempt from licensure; this rule is in place to ensure that the dealer isn’t simply a front for unlicensed puppy mills. In addition, in February 2013 a USDA inspection found 12 puppies in cages that were too small and 12 other puppies in transport enclosures that were so small the puppies could not even stand up inside them. USDA # 42-B-0284.
- **Connie and Edwin Townsend, Faithful Friends Kennel, Bedford, IA – Dog was so thin you could “visualize the ribs and hip bones,” per inspector.** Sick and injured dogs were found at Faithful Friends Kennel in both 2013 and 2012, although the kennel did pass one recent USDA inspection in January 2014. Additional issues found on multiple inspections include dirty and dangerous conditions and rodents and flies in the dogs’ enclosures, according to USDA inspection reports. In June 2013 USDA inspectors noted a female German shepherd with a thinning coat who was so thin that “you could visualize the ribs and hip bones,” and a male German shepherd with “flies hovering all around its head and body,” adding, “There are several flies sitting on the ears. The tips of both ears where the flies are located have black crusts and the right ear appears raw looking.” During the same inspection, flies were also buzzing around “a build up of feces” and wet, soiled bedding in the whelping area, according to the report. USDA #42-A-0858.

## KANSAS

- **Dorothy Brecheisen, Dot's Little Doggies, Inc. Lyndon, KS – Dogs repeatedly found exposed to frigid weather.** Dot's has had violations of the federal Animal Welfare Act for four years in a row. Repeat violations in March 2013 included numerous dogs in need of veterinary care, including dogs with eye discharge, matted fur, hair loss, an "abnormal growth" and dental problems. Additional repeat violations included unsafe housing, dirty conditions, and 36 dogs outside in temperatures of 25.8 degrees (F) without adequate bedding or protection from the cold. Repeat violations in November 2012 included dogs with eye problems and one dog who appeared to have such severe dental disease that she could no longer hold her tongue in her mouth. Similar issues were documented in 2011 as well. In March 2014, the USDA documented almost 400 dogs and puppies at Dot's Little Doggies. USDA #48-A-1755.
- **Mary Carpenter, Blue Moon Kennels, Melvern, KS – Sixty pages of USDA violations.** Between January 2011 and January 2014, Blue Moon Kennels was cited for no less than 60 pages of USDA violations, including a Direct Noncompliance in August 2013 for dogs with eye problems, hair loss, scabs and wounds. Repeat violations in December 2012 included numerous dogs needing vet care, including thin dogs, limping dogs and dogs with a host of other problems. The USDA gave Blue Moon Kennels an official warning in January 2012 for 11 different problems, including a "repeated failure to provide adequate veterinary care," a repeated failure to correct safety and housing issues and other problems. USDA #48-B-0302.
- **Roxanne Castens, Ludell, KS – Dogs with sores, hair loss and filthy water.** In August 2013, Castens was given an official warning by the USDA for failing to maintain an adequate program of veterinary care for her animals. In July 2013, Castens was cited for having four dogs in need of veterinary care, including two Huskies with scabs and hair loss and two dogs with signs of severe dental disease, and an additional ten other violations of the Animal Welfare Act, including dogs standing on wet, muddy floors with no dry area to stand on, dogs with greenish and brownish water, and dog food that was wet and deteriorating. The documented violations at this facility would probably be even longer, except that Castens more often than not does not give federal inspectors access to the property as required by law. In April 2013, The USDA gave Castens an official warning for repeated failure to make someone available to accompany an official for the inspection process. Even after the official warning, Castens for the sixth and seventh times failed to make the facility available for an inspection in January 2014 and again in February 2014. USDA #48-A-1628.
- **Pat Crabtree, Crabtree Kennel, St. Francis, KS – Wounded dogs and repeat violations.** During several different visits to Crabtree Kennel in 2013, USDA inspectors found a host of repeat violations and several dogs in need of veterinary care, including a Yorkie with a swollen abscess on her face, a Yorkie with such advanced dental issues that the roots of his teeth were exposed and he could no longer keep his tongue in his mouth, two dogs who were lame or limping and several dogs with badly matted fur. When inspectors returned to check on the kennel on February 12, 2014, there was no one available to give them access to check on conditions, which is a violation. The USDA documented almost 300 dogs and puppies at the facility during a recent inspection. Consumer complaints about sick puppies have also been reported on websites such as *ripoffreport.com* and *complaintsboard.com*. USDA #48-A-1641.
- **Shauna Engelken, Grandview Kennel, Seneca, KS – Years of problems under USDA license; failed state inspection.** After being cited for serious animal care violations by the USDA for three years in a row, Engelken's USDA license was cancelled for unknown reasons in June 2013. But Kansas public records show that Engelken then applied for a Kansas state license as a "retail breeder" in September 2013. Engelken failed her state pre-license inspection due to eight different issues, including "numerous dogs with toe/foot injuries, due to overgrown toenails getting caught in flooring," two Huskies with puncture wounds, housing structures so decrepit that some of the flooring seemed about to collapse, "large puddles of stagnant green water" under the raised enclosures and an "excessive build-up of feces" throughout the facility. Former USDA #48-A-1496.

- **Irene Finley, Herington, KS – Failed to correct safety issue after five citations.** In May 2013, a USDA veterinary medical officer found a German shepherd dog with a “pink, moist” wound behind his ear and a “thick, creamy discharge” oozing from his ear that hadn’t been treated. The licensee was warned during five different inspections over a two-year period about sharp points and edges that could injure the dogs, but federal inspection reports show she did not correct the problem (August 2012, Nov. 2012, May 2013, February 2013, Nov. 2013). Some of the sharp points were noted more than once in the enclosure housing a German shepherd dog, possibly the same dog found in May 2013 with the injury. Inspectors also noted dirty water and rusty water receptacles (Nov. 2012), dirty conditions, and other problems. In April 2013, The USDA gave Finley an official warning for a repeated failure to maintain surfaces free of rust and a repeated failure to correct the sharp points and edges that “could injure the animals.” USDA #48-A-1460/7739.
- **Shelli Kershner, Walnut Creek Kennel, Rush Center, KS – Received official warning from USDA.** In August 2013, The USDA gave Kershner an official warning for a repeated failure to provide adequate veterinary care and a repeated failure to provide safe housing for her breeding dogs. But even after this warning, in October 2013, a USDA inspector found a shih-tzu with her eye crusted shut and a “pink, fleshy protrusion” in the center of the eye. There was another incident earlier in the year when a dog was found with “long toenails and reddened, bloody gums.” In August 2012, the USDA found 109 dogs at the kennel when its official records listed only 64, indicating that this B dealer was getting dogs from undocumented sources, which could include unlicensed puppy mills. When the USDA returned in February 2014 to check on the kennel, they were not given access, which is a violation. USDA # 48-B-0311.
- **Michelle Miller, Plum Crazy Kennel, Elk City, KS – Six dogs in need of veterinary care; received warning from state.** Plum Crazy Kennel, a breeder of at least nine different breeds including chows, bulldogs and cocker spaniels, received a warning letter from the Kansas Animal Health Department in December 2013 for failing two consecutive inspections. Eight different noncompliant items were found in a January 2013 inspection, and five of them had still not been corrected as of December 2013. Issues found included filthy conditions, dogs housed in rusty cages and standing on uncoated wire flooring that could hurt their feet, dogs without enough protection from the cold and wind and six dogs in need of veterinary care, including some who were underweight with prominent hip bones and ribs. Lic # CB000U5L.
- **Peggy Pierce, Pierce’s Kennels, Narka, KS – Dogs with hair loss and scabs, crawling with fleas; failed six consecutive USDA inspections.** Between April 2011 and March 2014, Pierce’s Kennels failed six consecutive USDA inspections. USDA inspectors found multiple issues at each visit, including dogs with hair loss and scabs who were crawling with fleas (September 2013), medication kept for use on the dogs which had expired almost five years earlier (March 2014), unsafe housing, unclean food and water, unsanitary conditions and dogs and puppies who did not have enough protection from the cold when the overnight temperatures had been as low as 27 degrees. When the USDA returned to the kennels in December 2013 to check on conditions, they were unable to access the premises, which is a violation. USDA # 48-B-0273.
- **Wayne and Yvonne Sellin, Sellin Kennel, Chapman, KS – Official USDA warning for failure to provide adequate veterinary care.** In February 2014, The USDA gave the Sellins an official warning for a repeated failure to provide adequate veterinary care and a repeated failure to make the premises available for inspection. Issues included dogs with signs of dental disease, including one whose jaw was apparently broken or had disintegrated to the point that it was positioned at an odd angle and moved “freely from side to side.” Other violations noted included excessive feces and unsafe housing. USDA #48-A-0388.
- **Marilyn Soukup, Wilson, KS – Puppies in temperatures below freezing.** Since March 2011, this facility has failed seven times to give access to USDA inspectors as required by law. On the occasions that inspectors were able to access the facility between 2011 and 2014, Soukup was cited at every inspection for multiple violations of the Animal Welfare Act (Jan. 2014, Oct. 2013, Sept. 2012, May 2012, Sept. 2011, and March 2011). In January 2014, USDA inspectors found below-freezing temperatures in the

whelping building where puppies are kept. The inspector noted that recent temperatures at night had been 5 degrees F and that lamps were the only source of heat in the building. Violations included on previous inspections included matted dogs, animals with inadequate protection from the wind and rain and dirty and unsafe conditions. USDA #48-A-1157.

- **Shayne Turner, aka David or Michael, Rock Creek Kennel, DBA Clover Acres Farm, Kansas City, KS – Unlicensed kennel with a history.** In March 2014, The HSUS received a complaint about a sick puppy sold online by Clover Acres Farm in Kansas City, KS, which does not appear to have a state or federal license, despite offering multiple breeds of puppies for sale online, and has an F rating with the local Better Business Bureau. The recent complaint alleged that Clover Acres had sold a sick puppy via [puppyfind.com](http://puppyfind.com), a classified ad site that is often linked to puppy mills. On another website, [rock-creek-kennel.com](http://rock-creek-kennel.com), which uses the same phone number as Clover Acres Farm, the operator offers to ship puppies sight-unseen to buyers anywhere in the contiguous U.S. This would require him to have a federal license, but The HSUS could also find no record of a license. The owner of Clover Acres Kennel aka Rock Creek Kennel appears to have a history of operating problematic or unlicensed kennels. In May 2012, Shayne Turner, currently the owner of Rock Creek aka Clover Acres, and a registered sex offender named Harold “Buzz” Powell, invoked the ire of Miami County residents for operating an unpermitted breeding operation called Bully Farms Kennel. Bully Farms had drawn attention due to neighbors’ complaints about odor and noise: [graphic-online.com/news/article\\_98cae498-1339-5089-a518-8e9ca15eadbc.html](http://graphic-online.com/news/article_98cae498-1339-5089-a518-8e9ca15eadbc.html).

Both Turner and Powell have been linked to problem kennels under a number of different aliases and in different states. Harold “Buzz” Powell is currently living in Iowa, according to the sex offender registry, but he has also lived near Turner in Kansas. In Wyoming, Iowa, 65 dogs were removed from Powell’s Thunder Ridge Kennel in March 2010. A judge later allowed most of the animals to be returned to Powell, but 15 were retained on suspicion of mistreatment. The charges were later dismissed. Powell, however, has been in trouble with the law numerous times for a variety of offenses. It appears Powell later moved to Kansas, according to the sex offender registries, and then back to Iowa. A Kansas animal welfare inspection report from January 2013 shows that Powell was suspected of operating an unlicensed puppy mill in Kansas City, but that when inspectors arrived he had been evicted, leaving behind “evidence that animals had been housed in the garage.” The HSUS contacted the Kansas Department of Agriculture in March 2014 regarding the new complaint, and the Department reported that neither Turner nor Powell is licensed to operate a dog breeding kennel in Kansas as of March 2014. The Rock Creek Kennel website, however, is still active.

- **Darryl and Larry Wilson, D & L Kennels, El Dorado, KS – Dogs exposed to below-freezing cold.** The USDA gave D & L Kennels an official warning in February 2014 for dogs without bedding in freezing temperatures. In December 2013, USDA inspectors found 41 dogs in outdoor enclosures at this kennel who didn’t have enough protection from the frigid cold when the temperatures were only 17.5 degrees Fahrenheit. In 2013, USDA inspectors found violations at this kennel during four different visits, including severely matted dogs, unsafe housing and dirty conditions. USDA #48-B-0276.

## MARYLAND

- **Stephanie Stoltzfus, Stephanie’s Designer Puppies, aka [rpuppydogs.com](http://rpuppydogs.com), Conowingo, MD – Consumer complaints; had no information about origins of puppies, a violation of state law.** The HSUS has received several complaints about conditions at this storefront/breeding operation. On September 26, 2013, an HSUS investigator visited the storefront and found puppies who appeared dirty and unsocialized; several of the puppies shrank away from visitors as if they had never been handled before. The seller was also found on that date to be apparently violating a Maryland law that requires stores to identify certain information about their puppies and where they came from. The owner verbally claimed she herself was the breeder of most of the puppies, but had none of the information posted that is required by state law. The storefront appeared to be closed as of February 2014, but the operator is still



selling large numbers of puppies via online classified ads, offering to meet buyers in or around Baltimore. Ads were posted on Next Day Pets as recently as April 2014:

[nextdaypets.com/directory/dogs/uid/2437719.aspx](http://nextdaypets.com/directory/dogs/uid/2437719.aspx).

For more information about the Maryland pet stores investigation,

see: [humanesociety.org/assets/pdfs/pets/puppy\\_mills/investigation-md-pet-stores.pdf](http://humanesociety.org/assets/pdfs/pets/puppy_mills/investigation-md-pet-stores.pdf).

## MICHIGAN

- **Mary Kathryn Gabriel, Chien d'Or Kennel aka Gabriels Ark Kennel, Farmington Hills, MI – AKC-linked kennel failed multiple county inspections.** The HSUS was contacted about Chien d'Or kennel by the Puppy Mill Awareness group of Southeast Michigan, which has been looking into local complaints about Chien d'Or/ Gabriels Ark since July 2013. The kennel breeds AKC golden retrievers, selling puppies online and directly to the public. Photographs taken at county animal control inspections show dogs with patches of missing fur, dogs confined to small, rusty cages, dirty conditions and overcrowding. The kennel has failed many state inspections since 2008 and has been the subject of numerous buyer complaints. Pam Sordyl of Puppy Mill Awareness has gathered extensive documentation from public records and informants and stated, "Ms. Gabriel is a chronic offender with repeat violations to Regulation 129 governing dog kennels. The deplorable conditions of the kennels have directly impacted the dog's health, violating state animal cruelty laws, yet no charges have been filed." Gabriel primarily breeds AKC golden retrievers and advertises them on her website, [chiendorgoldens.com](http://chiendorgoldens.com).



Animal control officers found deplorable conditions at Chien d'Or Kennel in Farmington Hills, MI. The kennel has registered AKC breeding stock and sells online. In recent years, the AKC has opposed more than 100 bills designed to crack down on puppy mills. /Oakland County Animal Control, 2013.

## MINNESOTA

- **Gloria Brouwer, Jasper, MN – Three dogs died after not being treated properly.** Brouwer received an official warning from the USDA in February 2013 for failing to get proper care for three dogs who were observed to be sluggish with poor appetites in July 2011. A USDA Director of Investigative and Enforcement Services noted that Brouwer took the dogs inside when they seemed ill and attempted to treat them herself with Baytril. All three of the dogs died. The incident occurred in 2011 but the USDA did not publish its official warning until February 2013. In January 2013, the USDA cited Brouwer for several new problems, including expired veterinary drugs and unsafe housing. In February 2014, the USDA went to check on the kennel but was not given access, which is a violation. USDA #41-A-0364.
- **Paul and Sheila Haag, Valley View Kennel aka A Maze N Farmyard LLC, Eden Valley, MN – Mega mill, repeatedly cited for dogs with injuries.** Although it passed one USDA inspection in 2013, Valley View Kennel was cited for violations during four previous inspections in a row, including repeat violations for lack of adequate veterinary care for issues such as limping dogs with swollen feet (common in facilities where dogs are forced to stand on wire cage floors), a dog with "a red ulcer-like mass in the eye," unsafe and unsanitary housing, and numerous other problems. The Haags appear to have an enormous amount of dogs; in July 2013, the USDA counted more than 800 dogs and puppies on the property, indicating it may be one of the largest puppy mills in the country, and the second largest in the state next to

Clearwater Kennel in Cushing. The facility has not been inspected yet in 2014 (as of April 10). Concerned local advocates are calling for action via social media: [facebook.com/pages/Shutdown-A-mazen-Farmyard/175238609266415](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Shutdown-A-mazen-Farmyard/175238609266415). USDA #41-A-0281.

- **Sharon Lanz, Pine River, MN – Dogs in the freezing cold.** In November 2013, USDA inspectors found a number of issues at Lanz’s kennel, including dogs outside in the cold without adequate protection when the temperature was only 29 degrees, expired vaccination drugs and accumulations of wastes and clutter. Records show that USDA inspectors attempted to re-inspect the kennel three times in February 2014 and made calls to the owner each time, but were not given access during any of their attempts, a repeat violation. Violations were also found in 2011 and 2012. USDA #41-A-0027.
- **Deloris and Dick Richards, Marshall, MN – Ten dogs found with injuries; dogs repeatedly exposed to freezing cold and walking in their own feces.** In January 2014, USDA inspectors found three different repeat violations at the Richards’ kennel, including dogs without adequate protection from the bitter cold, safety issues and excessive feces. In August 2013, USDA inspectors found no fewer than ten dogs in need of veterinary care at the Richards’ kennel for issues such as hair loss, bleeding wounds and blackened scabs on their ears from fly bites. In addition, the Richards have been repeatedly cited by USDA inspectors for inadequate cleaning of feces in their dog runs (Jan. 2014, Dec. 2013, Aug. 2013, April 2013, and March 2011) and for dogs with inadequate protection from the weather. In December 2013, a USDA inspector noted that dogs were not properly sheltered when “the outdoor winter temperatures and wind chills are frequently falling below zero degrees,” and that some dog runs were so soiled with feces that “there were no clean areas for [the dogs] to step without coming into contact with the waste.” USDA #41-A-0016.
- **Michelle Sonnenberg, Detroit Lakes, MN – “A foul odor” and standing water was mixed with feces and maggots.** USDA inspectors found multiple violations during five inspections in a row at Sonnenberg’s kennel between December 2011 and September 2013. In September 2013, inspectors noted a “foul odor” due to standing water mixed with feces and maggots, a “prevalent ammonia [urine] smell” that was “strong enough to make the inspector’s eyes burn,” dogs without adequate space, and sanitation problems. During the September 2013 visit, more than 430 dogs and puppies on the property. In February 2013 an inspector noted an “ammonia level strong enough to make the inspector cough and feel a burn in the back of the throat” and other problems. In December 2011, inspectors found underweight dogs, dogs with matted fur, numerous unsafe conditions and puppies with their legs falling through wire flooring, which, as the inspector noted, “risks malnourishment” because puppies whose legs are stuck through the wire gaps may not be able to reach their mother to feed. The HSUS has received two complaints from buyers who reportedly purchased sick puppies from the facility. USDA #41-A-0021.

## MISSOURI

- **Kathie and William Blomberg, Locust Creek Farm, Versailles, MO – Dogs with eye disease.** In May 2013, a USDA veterinary medical officer found five dogs with untreated eye conditions at Locust Creek Farm, including dogs with film over the eyes, crusty discharge and lesions on their eyes. The officer also found a Pomeranian with evidence of dental disease so severe that the roots of the teeth could be seen. The dog also had fecal material matted in his fur. The inspector also noted holes in the floor and dirty feeders. The kennel had 378 dogs and puppies at its last known inspection in May 2013. No additional inspections have been recorded in 2014. The HSUS has also received three complaints from people who allegedly purchased sick puppies from Locust Creek Farm. USDA #43-A-1116.
- **Kay Butler, High Point Kennel, Montgomery City, MO– Nine puppies died in one week; problems found at nine different state inspections in 2013.** Missouri state inspectors visited High Point Kennel at least nine different times in 2013, and found violations at each and every visit, according to state records. In July, the licensee admitted to an animal health officer that nine puppies had died in the past week due to a suspected coccidian infection, yet there appeared to be no record of a veterinary

consultation about the problem, according to the inspection report. In November, state inspectors found that there was still no documentation available regarding a veterinary consultation about the high puppy death rate. In December, state inspectors noted that the vet consultation had finally occurred, however, “death loss among litters is still occurring.” Other problems documented at state inspections in 2013 included dogs and puppies who appeared underweight, sick or injured; dogs without adequate protection from harsh weather; puppies crowded into cages that were too small; repeated issues with dogs who were missing or “removed” from the kennel with no record of what happened to them; and strong odors in the kennel. State license #CB-5853.

- **Hazel Coleman, Dog-N-Ass Farm, Lebanon, MO – Sick puppy complaints.** The HSUS has received several complaints about sick puppies purchased from Dog-N-Ass farm. In April 2013, a USDA inspector cited Coleman for failing to get proper veterinary treatment for a wheaten terrier who could not bear weight on one of his back legs. She was attempting to treat the issue herself by putting Vaseline on the paw wound, per the inspector. The inspector also noted issues with housekeeping and dirty conditions, including mice droppings, cobwebs and food waste on the floors. In 2011 the facility was found to have excessive amounts of feces in two enclosures and no shade in the outdoor kennels, and USDA inspectors took a photo of a puppy entrapped in the wire flooring. USDA # 43-A-2640.
- **Johnny Dake, J & M Kennels, Stover, MO – Dead puppy found lying outside in the cold.** In January 2014, a USDA inspector found a 4-week-old shih tzu puppy frozen solid in the outdoor portion of an enclosure at J & M Kennels. She noted that when the operator picked up the body, “imprints from the wire flooring were observed” across the puppy’s body. The inspector noted that the puppy was found in the outdoor portion of the enclosure when overnight temperatures had recently been as low as 2 to -9 degrees Fahrenheit, and that there were no footprints in the snow that might indicate someone had walked around to check on the outside portion of the enclosures. Other sick or injured animals found at the facility included a Boston Terrier who could not put weight on her leg and had an open wound (April 2012), a female Shih Tzu with an oozing lesion on her paw (Jan. 2014) and a male shih tzu who was heavily matted with feces adhered to the fur and mats around his eyes that were “so large that the eyes were difficult to see” (Jan. 2014). In March 2014, USDA inspectors found 11 dogs who did not have any water and the licensee admitted they had not been given water since the evening before; when given water, the inspector noted that many of the dogs “were seen drinking water for at least one minute continuously” as if they had been excessively thirsty. USDA #43-A-4494.
- **Stacy Farley, Lancaster, MO – Dogs smeared with feces, matted clumps as large as baseballs; mother dog had no water.** In February 2014, USDA inspectors found five different types of violations at Farley’s kennel, including five dogs with only frozen water in their bowls and conditions so filthy that some of the dogs’ “feet and legs have become soiled with feces and/or urine” from walking in feces-filled enclosures. The USDA had repeatedly warned Farley about the filthy conditions on previous visits, including a “strong and prominent ammonia [urine] odor” in the indoor kennel and accumulations of feces in some of the cages that made it difficult for the dogs to walk without stepping in it. In November 2013, a USDA inspector found one dog so badly matted that some of her mats were as large as baseballs, and noted “these mats were discolored brown possibly due to the fecal and urine accumulation in the enclosure.” The inspector also found a pregnant Maltese who had no water, and when given water at the inspector’s request, the dog “drank almost continuously for over a minute” as if she had not had water in a long time. On another occasion in July 2013, inspectors found a dead mouse floating in a dog’s water bowl and an “extreme insect and rodent problem” throughout the facility, among other problems. In August 2013, this dealer was given an official warning from the USDA for several of these repeated problems. USDA # 43-B-3663.
- **Gary and Ruth Ann Goostree, Rafter “G” Kennel, Rocky Comfort, MO – Husky found with tennis ball-sized mass.** In January 2014, a USDA inspector found a breeding female husky with a “hard mass” the size of a tennis ball in her mammary area. The dog had not been recently seen by a vet. The inspector also noted that the whelping building “smelled of ammonia [urine]” and the ventilation system had been turned off. In June 2013, a Chihuahua was found with “matted hair coat, watery eyes and a grey

build-up on his molars” and a second Chihuahua was found with hair loss and other skin issues. USDA #43-A-5677.

- **Jeffrey and Judy Gray, Rothville, MO – Dogs with open wounds and scabs.** In January 2014, the Grays were issued an official warning by the USDA for repeated problems with inadequate veterinary care and sanitation issues. They were cited for eight different repeat violations in 2013 alone. In October 2013, a USDA inspector found a limping Chihuahua with a foot injury, a Maltese with numerous skin lesions plus a missing foot, and a three-week-old bulldog puppy with thickened, bright red skin at the Gray’s kennel. The Maltese’s open skin lesions had been pointed out on two prior inspections dating back to November 2012, according to the inspector, and had not been addressed. Issues found at prior inspections included a Chihuahua with such severe dental issues that he couldn’t keep his tongue in his mouth (March 2013 and Nov 2012), two Maltese dogs with skin lesions (March 2013), puppies in enclosures smeared with feces (March 2013), medications that expired as many as three to five years prior (June 2013), and repeated problems with excessive accumulations of feces, unsafe housing and dirty conditions. USDA #43-A-4052.
- **Richard Hoffman, Hoffman’s Kennel, Freeburg, MO – Federal inspectors found violations at four different inspections in 2013.** Normally the USDA only inspects licensed kennels every one to three years, especially if the kennels have no history of serious problems. But in 2013, USDA inspectors visited Hoffman’s Kennel on five different occasions and found violations almost every time. Documented issues included large accumulations of feces, dogs exposed to frigid winter temperatures and multiple dogs in need of veterinary care, including dogs with lesions, hair loss and signs of infection. USDA #43-A-3783.
- **Ron Hughes, Circle H Rotts & Labs, Williamstown, MO – Ten dogs in shelters so small they could not stand up.** After failing to make the facility available for inspection four times in a row in 2012, USDA inspectors were finally given access to Ron Hughes’ kennel in April 2013. At this time, inspectors recorded violations for unsanitary conditions, inadequate shelter, dogs without adequate protection from the cold and “a significant amount of fecal material” in several cages. They also found ten dogs in cages so small that they could not even stand up. In July 2013 a USDA inspector once again found four dogs in cages so small that they could not stand, sit or lie down normally, despite the prior warning. One USDA inspection in December 2013 was compliant.

Missouri state inspectors also found animal care violations in 2012, 2013 and 2014. In February 2014, a state inspector noted that dogs did not have enough protection from the winter weather when the temperature outside was about 20 degrees, and some of the dogs had frozen water. USDA #43-A-4833.

- **Angelia Kochs, Rocky Creek, Inc., Niangua, MO – Bulldogs could barely walk due to long nails curling back against their pads.** In January 2014, Kochs received an official warning from the USDA for failing to provide adequate veterinary care and protection from the weather to dogs on three different dates in 2013 and 2012. Affected animals included a French bulldog who was limping on both front legs; upon further examination the inspector noted “the toenails on both front feet were curling all the way around and back up against the pads” of the feet. The problem was so severe that the inspector noted the dog had bent her feet so that she could walk on “the joint above the padded feet area” rather than her paws (9/5/13). Inspectors also found two other bulldogs whose feet were in the similar condition, including one who was lying down and “shivering from the head to the tail.” Other veterinary problems found at the facility included a French bulldog who was “in distress and attempting to give birth” to a puppy who was halfway out in the breech position, which the owner had not noticed; the puppy was dry, indicating it had been partially exposed for some time. Dogs were also found with hair loss, excessively matted fur, and a leg injury. The USDA counted more than 300 dogs and puppies on the property in January 2014.

Similar violations were documented in Missouri state inspection reports during several visits in 2013. USDA #43-A-5611.



- **Barbara Neubert, Barb's Pups, Formerly Neubert Kennel and Farms, Vienna, MO – Admitted slaughtering downed cows to feed to dogs; rotting meat infested with maggots found in kennels.** For at least four years in a row, USDA inspectors have found serious problems at Neubert's kennel, including rotting meat fed to the dogs, filthy conditions and ill and injured dogs. In January 2013, USDA inspectors



A dog with wounded ears sniffs at rotted meat at Barbara Neubert's kennel in Vienna, MO. /USDA, 2011

found two boxers with leg injuries and another dog with noticeable diarrhea at Neubert's kennel. The licensee explained that one of the boxers had been bitten by another dog two days prior, but she had not taken the dog to a vet. The inspector noted that the dog's leg was swollen, she was having difficulty putting weight on her leg and the puncture wound was oozing. Similar problems were documented by USDA inspectors in 2012

and 2011. In 2012, Neubert admitted to a

USDA inspector that "she was obtaining 'downer cows' from the sales barn and slaughtering them on her premises to feed to the dogs," and that the meat was fed to them raw. The USDA inspector noted concerns about "the safety in the handling of this unusual diet."

It appears that despite the USDA's warnings about feeding rotting meat to the dogs in 2011 and 2012, the problem continued well into 2013. A Missouri state inspector noted rotting meat in two of Neubert's dog kennels in May 2013, and noted, "Meat and bones that become infested with maggots and begin rotting need to be removed from the animals' pens to reduce disease hazards, insects, pests and odors." State inspectors also noted an open drain with raw sewage and other disease hazards (5/28/13).

Additional USDA violations in 2012 and 2011 included numerous animals with skin problems, open wounds and eye disorders, and an Italian greyhound who was so thin that "the dog's ribs and top of the back bones were visible, the pelvic bones were prominent and a tucked abdomen was observed." Neubert received official warnings from the USDA in April 2013 and Sept. 2012 for repeated failure to provide proper vet care and other issues. The HSUS has also received complaints about sick puppies sold from this kennel. Previously licensed with Carl Neubert under #43-A- 5339; current lic #43-A-5777.

- **Brenda Ponting, Hale, MO – Fined by USDA; repeatedly failed to provide clean water.** The USDA has documented repeat violations at this facility in 2013, 2012 and 2011, particularly in regards to failing to provide clean water to the animals and other sanitation and safety problems. In January 2012, the USDA issued an official warning to Ponting for six different ongoing issues. In November 2013, Ponting was fined \$4,679.00 for the dirty water and three other issues related to inadequate shelter. One inspection in April 2014 was compliant. USDA #43-A-5133.
- **Anna Mary Reiff, Rocky Branch Kennel, Latham, MO – Received official warning for repeated failure to provide adequate veterinary care.** Rocky Branch Kennel received an official warning from the USDA in November 2012 for "repeated failure to establish and maintain programs of veterinarian care that use appropriate methods to prevent, control, diagnose, and treat diseases and injuries." Despite the



warning, inspectors in February 2013 found a doberman pinscher who couldn't put weight on a foot with a one-inch "red, raw" lesion. They also found 11 small puppies under eight weeks of age who were outside in the cold when the temperature was only 35 degrees. In March 2014, inspectors found unsafe conditions such as holes and sharp wires in several cages that housed small puppies. USDA #43-A-4696.

- **Tom and Debra Ritter, Cornerstone Farms, Curryville, MO – State inspectors found dogs with open sores, hair loss, raw skin and fly-bitten ears; website claims cornerstone farm is "AAA" rated by inspectors.** In January 2014, a Missouri state investigator documented fifteen violations at Cornerstone Farms, including "a strong ammonia [urine] odor," many dogs without adequate space and a litter of seven golden retriever mix puppies who didn't have any water. When provided with water, the state report noted that the puppies "were observed lapping the water nonstop" as if very thirsty. At a prior visit in June 2013, a state investigator found numerous dogs with health issues, including two dogs with open sores; numerous dogs with "hair loss, areas of red skin with small bumps, cracked and open areas of skin, and scratching observed;" and several dogs with fly-bitten ears which "can be painful and irritating," according to the inspection report. The report also noted that several dogs had such long curling toenails that it could cause difficulty walking, many dogs did not have adequate space or protection from the weather, and the kennel's veterinary records were not up to date, among other problems. **However, on their website Cornerstone Farms claims to be "AAA Rated by Inspectors."**

Cornerstone Farms has more than 500 dogs and puppies on the premises, according to Missouri state records. It sells nine different varieties of puppies online at [cornerstonefarms.net](http://cornerstonefarms.net), yet HSUS researchers could find no indication that they are federally licensed to do so. The USDA retail rule, which went into effect in November 2013, requires breeders who sell puppies sight-unseen, such as over the Internet, to obtain a USDA license and be regularly inspected under the federal Animal Welfare Act, yet no federal licenses under the Ritter name nor under Cornerstone Farms were found by HSUS researchers as of 4/18/14.

An eyewitness reported Cornerstone Farms to The HSUS and to local law enforcement. The witness reported that this facility houses hundreds of dogs in substandard conditions. In a statement provided to law enforcement, the witness declared that the operators routinely shoot unwanted dogs and bury them on the property. Local law enforcement declined to take action. Reports about these concerns have been filed with the USDA and the local Department of Agriculture.

- **Patricia A Rowe, Rowe's Family Kennel, Sheridan, MO – Dog shivering in the cold, repeated failure to provide adequate vet care.** Over the past several years, USDA inspection reports show multiple problems at Rowe's Family Kennel, including excessive accumulations of feces, dogs outside in the cold in January, and dirty food. A USDA inspector noted in January 2013 that a dog was seen "shivering in a corner" when the temperature was 32 degrees Fahrenheit. In January 2012, Rowe was issued an official warning by the USDA for six different violations, including "repeated failure to provide adequate veterinary care."

Despite the warnings from USDA, Missouri state inspectors found a similar issue when they performed an inspection at Rowe's Family Kennel in December 2013. The state inspector noted that it was 8 degrees Fahrenheit outside and the dogs' water was frozen. USDA #43-A-2520.

- **Josh L. Souza, Chevorlet Ranch [SIC], Phillipsburg, MO – Received an official warning from the USDA for six different repeat violations; dog with grade 5 heart murmur used for breeding.** In November 2013, The USDA gave Souza an official warning for six different violations found on six different inspections in 2012 and 2013, including a repeated failure to provide adequate veterinary care and a repeated failure to provide safe housing with enough space and weather protection for the dogs, among other issues. Despite the warning, Souza continued to be cited by USDA for repeated Animal Welfare Act violations as recently as February 2014, for selling underage puppies and other problems. Souza also failed numerous Missouri state inspections in 2013 and at least two in 2014. State inspectors noted issues with accumulations of trash and feces (Feb. 2014), dogs repeatedly found with loose stools and no documentation that a veterinarian was consulted about the issue (Oct. 2013, Jan. 2014, Feb. 2014),

and animals repeatedly exposed to harsh weather, including puppies found shivering in a cold barn in January 2014 — an issue which the licensee was also warned about in 2013 and 2012.

In December 2012, Missouri state inspectors found that Souza was continuing to breed a female Maltese named Misty who had been diagnosed with a grade 5 heart murmur; the dog had previously been identified by the attending veterinarian as unsound for breeding. State inspection records also indicate that Souza sells most of his puppies to pet shops in Florida, yet inspectors noted repeatedly that Souza was unable to produce any proof that the puppies had been shipped with health certificates. Breeders who ship puppies across state lines are required by law to ship a health certificate with each puppy indicating that they have been checked by a vet. USDA #43-B-3620.

- **Johanna Steele, Lone Sycamore Kennels, Gorin, MO – “Unresponsive” dog found unable to stand, had been injured for three days.** Lone Sycamore Kennels passed one USDA inspection in January 2014, but prior to that, violations were found at seven other inspections or attempted inspections in 2013, 2012 and 2011. Issues found in 2013 include dogs crawling with fleas and scratching repeatedly, a miniature pinscher with hair loss who was noticeably underweight, and a Pomeranian named “Woofie” found “laying on his side in an enclosure barely moving and taking very shallow breaths.” A USDA inspector noted that the Pomeranian was “extremely matted with urine and fecal material” and his left eye was “completely covered with a white-yellow mucus-like discharge.” Woofie was “initially unresponsive to physical stimuli and unable to upright himself even with assistance,” according to the inspection report. The licensee told the inspector that the dog had not been eating or drinking on his own for about three days after apparently being injured by other dogs, but that she had not taken him to a vet. No follow-up report was available on the USDA website indicating what happened to Woofie after the inspection date. Veterinary issues were also documented in 2012 and 2011. USDA #43-A-1172.
- **Trina Thomas, Havanese Haven, Elkland, MO – Three USDA warnings for failing to adequately treat bulldog’s eye condition.** In April 2012, May 2012, and again in March 2013, a USDA inspector pointed out an English bulldog named Gloria who “had a thick greenish yellow discharge covering the entire left eyeball.” The issue was pointed out more than once, but the dog never seemed to get adequate and complete treatment. In February 2014, the USDA issued Thomas an official warning for a failure to provide adequate veterinary care, failure to properly identify puppies, and failure to sufficiently ventilate the facility, which resulted in strong ammonia [waste] fumes that “burned the noses and eyes of the inspectors.” In October 2013, state inspectors noted that four dogs didn’t have bedding or heat when the temperature was in the 30s. USDA #43-A-5600.
- **David and Esther Troyer, Clark, MO – Injured dogs could not walk normally; received official warning from USDA.** USDA inspectors cited this facility in March 2013 for repeated failure to provide adequate veterinary care, including a limping Maltese mix who couldn’t put weight on her leg because of a lesion on her foot and a dog with loose teeth. In November 2012, the kennel was also cited for repeated veterinary care issues for a bichon who could not bear weight on her leg and had swollen paws, a lesion on her foot and as a “yellowish discharge” coming from her ear and “discharge from the eyes.” Five other dogs had severely matted hair around the eyes. The inspector also noted that dirty wire cutters were kept for the use of removing dewclaws in puppies. In reference to the dirty wire cutters, the inspector wrote, “Surgeries performed by individuals without appropriate training could result in pain, distress, infection, or injury of animals.” USDA #43-A-3085.
- **Glenda Watson, Watson’s Puppies 4 U, West Plains, MO – Puppies infested with fleas and ticks, limping and sick dogs, failed seven state inspections, sells online without a USDA license.** Eight different breeds of puppies are offered for sale on [watsonpuppies4u.com](http://watsonpuppies4u.com). The website claims that Watson’s Puppies 4 U is “state and USDA licensed,” yet it has not had a USDA license since 2011, according to the USDA’s online database (searched on 4/18/14). Under the new USDA retail rule, which was well-publicized and went into effect in November 2013, the law requires a facility to have a USDA license to legally sell puppies online sight-unseen.

Under its state license, the facility failed six inspections in 2013, and has failed at least one so far this year. In February 2014, a state inspector found that the ambient temperature was 12 degrees,

numerous water bowls were frozen, and the dogs did not have adequate protection from the bitter cold. The inspector noted that the overnight temperature had been about one degree Fahrenheit. During the same visit, the inspector also noted “piles of bloody liquid stool” in one of the enclosures. The inspection report concluded, “At today’s inspection, the licensee has 115 adult dogs. The licensee continues to have violations regarding husbandry practices and care and either needs to reduce her dogs on-hand inventory or employ additional people to assist her in providing the required husbandry practices and care.” Similar recommendations were made by state inspectors in December and August 2013.

Violations on Watson’s July 2013 state inspection reports included puppies infested with fleas and ticks, excessive flies that were “in [the] dogs’ eyes and covering feces and food waste,” and several dogs in need of veterinary care, including a limping terrier who could not put weight on his paw, an Irish setter with a “nickel sized growth” on one eyelid, and a Boston terrier with a “cloudy, discolored, protruding left eye.” On August 20, 2013, many dogs were found with loose, bloody stools, a schnauzer had one eye swollen shut, and numerous dogs were found scratching, with “fleas and ticks observed on the animals.” Dogs were also found without water when the temperature was 86 degrees. Former USDA #43-A-4919.

- **Janelle Yates, Cloverleaf Kennel, Willow Springs, MO – Sick dogs and feces throughout the kennel.**

After USDA inspectors found a host of serious problems at Cloverleaf Kennel in July 2013, they

attempted to return twice to check on conditions but were not given access to the kennel. The problems found included matted dogs and dogs with veterinary problems, broken and unsafe cages with holes in the flooring, dirty food and water containers, and rodent feces



USDA inspectors photographed these puppies in a feces-smeared crate at Janelle Yates’ Cloverleaf Kennel in Willow Springs, MO. One of the puppies was witnessed stepping in the feces and then stepping into the food bowl, and the inspector noted that there appeared to be small white worms in the feces. Numerous additional problems were found in 2013. /USDA 2011.

throughout

the kennel. In fact, out of the last five visits from USDA inspectors, they were only given access to the kennel during one visit. It is a violation of the Animal Welfare Act not to make the kennel available for inspection during normal business hours. Similar problems found by USDA inspectors in earlier years include two Boston Terriers and an additional nursing female who were “very thin” with dull coats and diarrhea throughout their enclosures (May 2011). That same date, USDA inspectors photographed four puppies found in a wire crate smeared with feces. The inspector noted that there appeared to be worms in the feces and at least one puppy stepped into his food dish while his foot was still covered in feces. USDA #43-A-5324.

- **Anna and Moses Zimmerman, Ana-Mos Kennel, Barnett, MO – Received official USDA warning for five different repeated problems.** In January 2014, The USDA issued an official warning to Ana-Mos Kennel for five different repeat violations, including failing to provide adequate veterinary care and problems with sanitation and unsafe housing. In July 2013 and again in November 2013, USDA inspectors noted that most of the enclosures were so full of feces that “the amount of fecal material present made it difficult for the animals to avoid walking in it.” In January 2014, a state inspection found an injured Yorkshire terrier, and in 2013 the facility was cited for seven other state violations. USDA #43-A-5328.

## NEBRASKA

- **Jamie Bailey, Beaver City, NE – Dogs with moldy food and frozen water; failed four state inspections in a row.** During at least four state inspections in a row between May 2013 and February 2014, this puppy mill failed to meet basic state requirements. During its most recent state inspection on February 18, 2014 (the most recent date available in the records received by The HSUS), Bailey was found to be operating without a license, the kennels were soiled with feces, wood chips in the kennels were “soaked with urine” and dogs were living in such dark enclosures that it was difficult for the inspector to see them to check on their welfare. Inspectors noted on four different occasions in 2013 and 2014 that the dogs were soiled and dirty, and in December 2013, inspectors found the dogs had moldy food and frozen water. As recently as March 20, 2014, Bailey was found to be offering “AKC puppies” online and claiming to be a “state licensed kennel,” via a Facebook page, on [pupcity.com](http://pupcity.com) and [saints4lifesaintbernards.webs.com/](http://saints4lifesaintbernards.webs.com/). The latter website offers puppies for sale that were born on February 2, 2014, during the same month that Bailey was cited for not having a license. Former state license #02141215.
- **Brenda Carroll, Plattsburgh, NE – Dogs in four-degree temperatures with frozen water.** This breeding operation failed to meet state standards at four consecutive state inspections between January 2013 and February 2014. At all four inspections, dogs were found either with no water or water that was frozen. In February 2014, a state inspector noted that dogs were exposed to four-degree temperatures and all the water was frozen. Inspectors had notified Carroll in January 2013 that dog flaps were needed on the outside dog houses and that the dogs needed fresh, unfrozen water, but she still had not corrected the problem on the 4-degree day more than a year later, according to state inspection records. State license #03131109.
- **Norma Jean Harders, Boelus, NE – Gravely ill dog left untreated for two days.** In January 2014, a USDA inspector noted three dogs in need of veterinary care at Harders’ facility, including a female shih tzu named Muffin who “was found lying on her side and shivering. This dog could not sit up or stand.” The inspector noted that the operator stated that Muffin “had a stroke two days ago” but that the operator had not taken her to a vet. Two other dogs were in need of medical care, and the inspector noted safety issues and excessive feces. Issues found at prior inspections included 14 dogs missing from the premises with no records on where they had gone, sharp edges and wires that could injure the dogs and dirty conditions. USDA # 47-A-0593.
- **Michelle and Michael Hellbusch, Belgrade, NE – Violations at last seven inspections.** State kennel inspection reports obtained by The HSUS show that Nebraska inspectors visited this kennel seven different times between August 2013 and January 2014 and found violations at each and every visit. Violations included six dogs found outdoors in January 2014 with no bedding when the temperature was 5 degrees Fahrenheit and the wind chill was negative 9 degrees Fahrenheit; repeatedly failing to obtain a veterinary plan; and unsanitary conditions. State license #10131026.
- **Julia Hudson, Malcolm, NE – Failed at least four state inspections in a row.** During a period between February and July 2013 (the most recent records available as this report were written on 3/21/14), Hudson’s kennel failed four state inspections in a row. Issues found included dirty conditions, dogs without enough space, ammonia levels up to 17 ppm, a repeated problem with not all dogs having



water, and no veterinary records for the animals (noted on three visits by inspectors). State inspectors told the licensee repeatedly that she did not have enough employees to properly care for the animals, inspection records show. State license #0413851.

- **Daniel and Lizann Miller, McCook, NE – “Extremely thirsty” dogs found pawing at solid ice in water bowls.** USDA inspectors documented problems at this kennel at seven different visits in 2013 alone, including three visits during which the operator failed to make the premises available for inspection, expired and unlabeled drugs kept for use on the dogs, dogs in the cold without adequate protection from the elements, excessive amounts of feces and dogs with solid ice in their water bowls who “were observed sticking their nose in one of the water receptacles and aggressively pawing at the solid ice inside of it,” according to the inspector (12/10/13). The inspector noted that when the operator gave some of the dogs fresh water, they “drank continuously for over a minute and appeared extremely thirsty.” At that point, the licensee admitted to the inspector that the dogs were last given water at 7:00 am, and the solid ice was found in the afternoon, indicating that the dogs had gone many hours without drinkable water. USDA # 47-A-0564.
- **Darcy and Jane Perkins, Avoca, NE – Dogs without food or water.** During a state inspection on February 26, 2014, inspectors found that some of the dogs at the Perkins’ kennel had no food and no water. In addition, at least twelve of the dogs were severely matted (an issue the licensee was cited for twice in 2013 as well), pens were filled with “piles of feces” and the inspector stated that the licensee clearly did not have enough employees to properly care for the 35 dogs on the premises. State license #0413752.
- **Mitch and Alisa Pesek, Swanton, NE – Dogs Exposed to one-degree temperatures with frozen water.** On February 10, 2014, state kennel inspectors noted that six dogs were in an outside kennel at the Pesek’s kennel without adequate bedding when the temperature was only 1 degree, and all outside water for the dogs was frozen. The licensees had been warned about the lack of adequate weather protection on two prior visits (March 2013, May 2013), yet apparently had not corrected it almost a year later. On several other occasions inspectors also noted excessive feces and matted dogs and noted that the licensees “need more employees to properly care for the dogs.” Altogether, multiple problems were found at the kennel at five different state inspections between March 2013 and February 2014. State license #03131115.
- **Larry and Pat Peters, Taylor, NE – More than 14 repeat USDA violations.** In October 2012, the USDA gave the Peters an official warning for repeated failure to provide adequate veterinary care to their dogs. Despite that warning, in both May 2013 and December 2013, USDA animal care inspectors found seven different repeat violations at the Peters’ kennel at each visit. December 2013 violations included two dogs in need of veterinary care, unsafe housing conditions and dirty food and water containers. In May 2013, inspectors found two dogs with hair loss and scabs, a severely matted shih tzu, and numerous unsafe housing conditions. Between December 2012 and April 2013, the facility also failed four times in a row to make the property available for inspection. Prior to that, numerous similar issues were found during earlier inspections. The facility breeds both dogs and cats. USDA #47-A-0444.
- **Marlon Thomsen, St. Paul, NE – Puppies found shivering in the cold; one dead.** At 1:30 pm on January 7, 2014, Nebraska state inspectors noted that dogs at Marlon Thomsen’s kennel “have not had water since yesterday, pails have ice or [are] empty.” Inspectors also found cages with holes in them, excessive feces and dogs exposed to the bitter cold. During a previous inspection in October 2013, inspectors had warned Thomsen about similar problems with lack of protection from the cold; the inspector’s notes found “some young puppies cold and shivering and one puppy died (newborn).” Inspectors also found dogs without food and water who had reportedly not been given any food or water since the day before (10/21/13). State license #03131144.
- **Duane and Sheryl Tietz, Heavens Blessings, Bancroft, NE – Euthanasia by gunshot “could cause severe pain and suffering to the animals,” per inspector.** When a state inspector visited the Tietz kennel in August 2013, he found 150 dogs and multiple violations, including a written veterinary plan which stated that the licensee would dispose of dogs who required euthanasia by gunshot. Other problems found included excessive feces, rusty cages and dirty conditions. The kennel also has a USDA license, with



violations found at its last seven federal inspections. Repeated problems were found with a lack of proper veterinary care, with USDA inspectors finding numerous sick or injured dogs as recently as February 2014. During one August 2013 inspection alone, USDA inspectors documented eleven pages of Animal Welfare Act violations, including an elderly dog named Shakespeare who had no teeth and was struggling to eat: Shakespeare “was observed scooping up whole dry kernel dog food from his red self-feeder while eating. Shakespeare has no teeth. After scooping up the dog food, Shakespeare was observed attempting to eat the dog food for approximately 10 seconds. Kernels of the dry dog food were observed falling out of Shakespeare’s mouth while eating.” At its next visit, USDA inspectors noted that Shakespeare and two other dogs they had identified as needing vet care had been “euthanized.” On this same visit, the USDA inspector noted that the licensee’s method of euthanasia was “gunshot to head,” which “could cause severe pain and suffering to the animals.” USDA #47-A-0316/ State license #0413185.

- **Kevin and Anne Marie Williams, Ashton, NE – Unacceptable euthanasia method: “lead injection.”** In December 2013, a state inspector found dogs at the Williams kennel without bedding when the temperature was only 9 degrees. The inspector also noted that the written veterinary plan allowed the licensee to conduct his own euthanasia by “lead injection, referring to gunshot wound,” which is “unacceptable.” Other issues found in November 2013 included excessive feces, dirty conditions, no papers provided to show that a wounded dog received veterinary care after licensee was directed by the inspector to have him treated, excessively matted dogs and not enough employees to properly care for approximately 50 dogs at the facility. State license #05131023.

## NEW HAMPSHIRE

- **Monique Lemay Halvorsen, Briarbrook Kennel, Pittsfield, NH – Buyers report sick puppies.** The HSUS has received five consumer complaints about Briarbrook Kennel, three of them regarding sick puppies allegedly sold to consumers. The complaints were received by The HSUS in 2011, 2013, and 2014. Additional complaints go back as far as 2007, when a buyer won a judgment against Monique Lemay for selling a puppy who died two days later. According to the case summary, the judgment found that “Plaintiffs had puppy for 2 days. Puppy died, according to the vet, from lack of food (empty stomach). It is not reasonable to believe that the puppy (4 mos. old) would die from lack of food for just two days.” The plaintiff won the full judgment for \$922.19. In addition, a search of the USDA’s database could find no USDA-licensed breeders in this town or under this business name, despite the fact that this kennel sells numerous puppies online through their own website and also via the Internet on sites such as Next Day Pets ([nextdaypets.com](http://nextdaypets.com)). A new USDA rule which went into effect in November 2013 requires all breeders with more than four breeding females and who sell to customers sight-unseen to obtain a license and inspection from the USDA. Puppies are advertised on [briarbrookkennel.com/](http://briarbrookkennel.com/).

## NEW JERSEY

- **William/Bill Roberts, aka John Roberts, Gloucester County, NJ – Reportedly sells sick puppies on [puppyfind.com](http://puppyfind.com).** William Roberts has been accused of selling sick puppies on multiple occasions over the years, but The HSUS found that he still had numerous puppies for sale on [puppyfind.com](http://puppyfind.com) as recently as February 2014. In 2008, 28 dogs were seized from his home and he was briefly jailed, but news sources say the charges were later administratively dropped. However, Roberts was found selling sick puppies again in 2012 and 2013. Roberts was the subject of an ABC 6 Action News report in November 2013 after a woman who purchased a shih tzu from him said the puppy died of Parvovirus a few days later: [abclocal.go.com/wpvi/story?id=9308028](http://abclocal.go.com/wpvi/story?id=9308028). In 2012 the county issued a cease and desist order to Roberts after getting another complaint that he was illegally selling sick dogs. But ABC 6 Action News found him still selling puppies out of his car as recently as October 2013. Action News found Williams selling the dogs under the name John Roberts. Pet Watch New Jersey ([pwnj.org](http://pwnj.org)) states that he sells puppies out of a red truck and also advertises on [breeders.net](http://breeders.net).

## NEW YORK

- **Marjorie's Kennel, Harpursville, NY – Dogs without protection from the cold.** Issues found by state inspectors in recent years include dogs in unheated areas without proper nesting material (12/30/13 and 10/30/13), matted dogs (12/30/13 and 8/19/13) and concrete floors that were cracked and damaged that were not fixed despite being pointed out at several inspections. The kennel houses approximately 50 dogs. The facility did have a compliant inspection in February 2014. NY lic # 305.
- **Sunset Kennels, Port Crane, NY – Puppy's eye was crusted shut.** In December 2012, a state inspector found a number of serious violations at this kennel, including a puppy with a runny, crusty eye that was almost completely crusted shut; a strong urine smell in the back kennel; and matted dogs in need of grooming. Another state inspection in November 2013 found dirty conditions, a strong odor, two dogs who did not have rabies vaccinations and no program of veterinary care. Although a follow-up visit in December 2013 found that these issues were corrected, the number of problems found at two other inspections continues keep The HSUS to be concerned about this kennel. NY lic. #579.  
[agriculture.ny.gov/petdealer/InspRpt/579\\_\\_2012\\_12\\_5.pdf](http://agriculture.ny.gov/petdealer/InspRpt/579__2012_12_5.pdf)
- **Frances and Isaac Zimmerman, Dundee, NY – Violations at every USDA inspection since September 2011.** The Zimmermans acquired their USDA license in October 2011 after failing their first two pre-license inspections. Upon the third try, they received their license, but have had noncompliance issues at three routine inspections since then. Issues that have been noted by inspectors include unsafe housing, not following the approved vaccination schedule for puppies, matted dogs and issues with cleaning and sanitation. USDA #21-A-0156.

## OHIO

- **Martha Drozdik and Anthony Drozdik, Ohio Puppy (ohiopuppy.com), Youngstown, OH and West Virginia Puppy, Martinsburg, WV.– Investigated by USDA and Martinsburg, WV Sheriff's Department for, among other things, selling puppies obtained from unlicensed breeders and transporting puppies from Ohio to West Virginia without a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection.** Anthony and Martha Drozdik are connected to two massive puppy-selling operations, one in West Virginia called West Virginia Puppy, [wvpuppy.com](http://wvpuppy.com), (which was in The HSUS's Horrible Hundred report in 2013) and one in Ohio called Ohio Puppy, [ohiopuppy.com](http://ohiopuppy.com). Each operation sells an estimated 1,000 puppies per year. Both operations have storefronts, but in addition to selling puppies, the owners claim on the Ohio Puppy and West Virginia Puppy websites that they are also breeders.  
On March 11, 2014, Animal Control and the Sheriff's Department in Martinsburg, WV, acting on an insider's tip about allegedly sick and dying puppies and with the assistance of the USDA, seized 25 puppies travelling from Ohio to the West Virginia Puppy store. Many of the puppies seemed ill and appeared to be crossing state lines without a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection, according to law enforcement sources. [journal-news.net/page/content.detail/id/605800/Officials-seize-25-puppies-from-Martinsburg-pet-business.html?nav=5222](http://journal-news.net/page/content.detail/id/605800/Officials-seize-25-puppies-from-Martinsburg-pet-business.html?nav=5222). At press time, many of the puppies had been returned to the store.  
Most of the puppies were traced back to Anthony Drozdik and to Martha Drozdik, who has a kennel license in Mahoning County, Ohio. Evidence that The HSUS obtained from Martinsburg, WV law enforcement found that the Drozdiks appeared to be violating a number of laws, including buying from unlicensed puppy mills, transporting underage puppies, and transporting puppies without valid health certificates. The HSUS has also asked the USDA to look into the fact that the West Virginia website offers to ship puppies to "most international airports in the U.S.A." sight-unseen (<http://wvpuppy.com/Shipping.htm>), even though neither of the Drozdiks is federally licensed to do so.
- **Roy Miller, Rose Run Kennels, Sugarcreek, OH – Six "no access" inspection attempts in three years.** Out of the past eight visits that USDA inspectors have made to Rose Run Kennels between March 2012 and December 2013, they have only been able to get inside it twice, and only one of the

inspections was problem-free (Dec. 2012). The USDA's only routine inspection over the past three years found five violations for issues such as dogs with medical problems who had not been seen by a vet and dirty conditions. It is a violation of the Animal Welfare Act to fail to make a facility available for regular inspections during normal business hours. USDA #31-A-0276.

- **Andy Troyer, Woodland Kennel, Fredericktown, OH – Dogs repeatedly found with injured/damaged eyes.** In January 2014, a USDA inspector found multiple problems at this facility, including a limping dog with a mass on her foot, a shih tzu with a "small white mass protruding from her left eye," unvaccinated dogs and several dogs with red, inflamed gums. It was not the first time the kennel was found to have dogs with eye disorders and other problems. In December 2011, the USDA found a male Yorkie with discharge and greenish crusting around his eyes. The licensee had been instructed to take the same dog to a vet during two previous inspections. The dog still had not been properly treated by a vet, according to the December 2011 USDA report. Instead of providing adequate veterinary treatment, the licensee relinquished the dog (see photo, page one). It is unknown what happened to the dog. USDA #31-A-0193.
- **Jonas Yoder, Sugar Valley Puppies, Sugarcreek, OH – Multiple dogs found in need of vet care.** On December 3, 2013, USDA inspectors found five dogs in need of veterinary care at Sugar Valley Puppies, including a Boston Terrier with "a cloudy left eye with dark red rim" whose eye was watering and who was "squinting which indicates pain," per the inspector. The inspector also noted a "thick layer of feces" on some surfaces. When an inspector arrived on December 11, 2013 to check on that dog and four others, no one was available to let them in. On December 19<sup>th</sup>, the inspector noted that the five dogs had been treated by a vet. But that was not the first time the kennel was cited for similar problems. In September 2012, inspectors found three other dogs in need of veterinary care, including two dogs with similar eye problems and a dog with lesions and hair loss. USDA #31-B-0159.

## OKLAHOMA

- **Phyllis Burleson, Country Line Kennel, Grove, OK – Warned by USDA for failing to provide adequate veterinary care, yet violations continued.** In May 2013, The USDA gave Country Line Kennel an official warning for failing to provide proper veterinary care for dogs found in April 2013 with open wounds, severe matting and other issues. Despite this warning, additional problems were found in July 2013, including a limping beagle who could not put weight on her leg and "upon closer examination, the right front paw had all the toenails missing, including the cuticle," which the inspector noted appeared bloody and could be very painful. Another dog, a Maltese, was found with matted hair that was twisted into "balls of dirt, grime and feces and were hanging from the legs, feet and on its abdomen area." Inspectors also found excessive feces with dogs walking in the feces, "layers of dirt and grime," and in the whelping building, "the ammonia [urine] and feces smell was strong enough to irritate the inspectors' eyes." In February, 2014, the USDA fined Burleson \$1,357 for the inadequate veterinary care of the beagle and Maltese and for a housekeeping violation. There was one compliant inspection in December 2013. USDA #73-A-1798.
- **Henry Keele, Blue Creek Kennels, Porter, OK – Fined by USDA for eight different violations.** In August 2013, USDA fined Blue Creek Kennels \$3,286 for eight different violations, including failing to provide adequate veterinary care for several dogs and failing to keep the facility in safe and clean conditions. Problems continued, as evidenced by a November 2013 inspection that found a dog with "a significant dental condition," an underweight appearance and a laceration of her eyelid. The dog was euthanized the following week. USDA #73-A-0811.
- **Ray Range, D & B Kennel, Arnett, OK – Dogs had no rabies shots; sells puppies through Hunte.** During a May 2013 Oklahoma state kennel inspection, inspectors found several violations, including the fact that the breeding dogs at D & B Kennel had no rabies vaccinations. There were a total of 87 breeding dogs at the facility, according to the report, and the inspector noted that the kennel sells

puppies through the Hunte Corporation. The Hunte Corporation is known as the largest puppy broker in the country and ships puppies to pet stores across the United States. Although eight-week-old puppies (the age normally sold to Hunte by breeders) are not old enough to have rabies vaccinations, having no vaccinations on the parents of the puppies could present a significant health risk to the puppies as well as a public safety concern. Ray Range was also previously licensed by the USDA under USDA #73-A-2298, although his license was cancelled in November. In January 2014, Range applied to re-activate his USDA license. During a pre-inspection visit, a USDA Veterinary Medical Officer found numerous dogs in need of veterinary care, including dogs with signs of dental and eye disorders. During a January 2012 USDA inspection, an inspector noted that the “ammonia and odor level was very high to the point that it was hard to breathe the air and stung my eyes throughout the inspection.” Puppies were also found with “their entire feet and legs” falling through gaps in the wire flooring. In July 2011, many similar repeat violations were found, including dogs with swollen or oozing eyes and hair loss, and some dogs who were so badly matted that the inspector couldn’t see their eyes. Former USDA #73-A-2298. New USDA #73-A-2676.

- **Jan Seals, Welch, OK – Emaciated dog could barely walk.** In December 2013, a USDA inspector found a six-year-old Japanese Chin in Seals’ whelping kennel whose “ribs and backbone could be visualized during the inspection.” The inspector noted: “The hip bones were protruding. The large bones of the back legs could be visualized. It looked as if the dog was having trouble walking and maintaining normal balance.” The owner told the inspector that the dog had been evaluated by a vet in September, but when asked to produce those records, she could not. Four other violations were found by USDA inspectors in 2012, including dirty conditions, sharp points that could injure the dogs, and a greenish film on some of the dogs’ water. In addition, a 2013 Oklahoma state kennel inspection found incomplete medical records on the dogs. The inspector noted that Seals sells “exclusively to Hunte,” which is believed to be the largest puppy broker in the country. USDA # 73-A-2038.

## PENNSYLVANIA

- **Deep Run Kennel, Lebanon, PA – Received written warnings and a citation from the state in 2013.** Although it passed some of its recent inspections, recurring problems have been documented at this kennel for about five years. In January 2013, Deep Run Kennel received a written and verbal warning from state inspectors for high ammonia levels, poor ventilation and a rodent infestation. In February 2013, the kennel received another warning for dogs without the minimum amount of kennel space. In June 2013, state animal wardens noted that there were 70 dogs on the premises and “all dogs were due for veterinary examinations on or before May 5, 2013, and they had not been completed.” In 12/13/12, the kennel received a warning for unacceptable ammonia levels and a rodent problem in the kennels. In 2010, the kennel received multiple written warnings for dogs without water, excessive feces, unsafe conditions and other problems. State license #03968.
- **JR’s Kennel, Quarryville, PA – Piles of feces, operating without a license.** In January 2014, a state dog warden found this kennel to be operating without a license. There were more than 50 dogs and puppies on the premises. The kennel had been previously licensed and had been cited and warned numerous times by state officials for issues related to inadequate housing, poor ventilation, piles of feces, veterinary care issues and other problems. In March 2014, inspectors returned to the kennel pending approval of a new license and found that there was still no operating ventilation system. PA Lic #02343.
- **Ronks Kennel, Ronks, PA – Received 15 warnings from the state and three citations.** There are two different license numbers assigned to Ronks Kennel, but both are on Ronks Road and share a phone number. Since 2006, the Ronks Kennel sites have received 15 different warnings from state dog wardens and at least three different citations, most of them under the 05171 license number. Issues found in 2013 and 2014 included dogs in need of veterinary care, dogs without adequate heat shivering in the cold, excessive feces and unsafe conditions. Lic. #05171 and lic. #02422.

- **Run Way Kennel, Gordonville, PA – Sick dogs found at nine inspections; failed to vaccinate for rabies at six inspections.** Since 2006, Run Way Kennel has been cited by local dog wardens six times for failing to properly vaccinate dogs for rabies, a significant public health risk. In addition, inspectors found sick animals in need of veterinary care during nine different inspections, and issued nine different warnings and six citations over a seven-year period. Other problems noted repeatedly included excessive feces and dirty and unsafe conditions. In 2013 alone, the kennel failed four state inspections. Issues found in 2013 that were also mirrored in past inspections included dogs without rabies vaccinations, filthy conditions and numerous sick or injured dogs in need of veterinary care. The kennel has passed one inspection so far in 2014 (Feb. 2014). State license #03925.

## SOUTH DAKOTA

- **Lisa Hanten, White Lake, SD – Heat index over 108 Degrees in whelping building; given two official warnings by USDA.** In March 2014, Lisa Hanten was given an official warning by the USDA for five different problems, including inadequate veterinary care, unsafe conditions, animals subjected to excessively high heat and excessive feces and grime. In August, 2013, Hanten was given an official warning by the USDA for nine different repeat violations occurring in 2013, 2012 and 2011, including failing to keep kennel facilities clean and safe, failing to properly sanitize enclosures, repeatedly failing to clean up feces and debris and failing to make the facility available for inspection on four different occasions. In August 2013, USDA inspectors found a heat index of 108.4 degrees Fahrenheit in the whelping building with an outdoor heat index of 114.8 degrees. USDA #46-A-0389.
- **Vickie Hines, Lar-Kie Kennel, Woonsocket, SD – Pugs panting in building with a heat index up to 109 degrees; fined by USDA.** Between August 2011 and August 2013, serious violations were found at Lar-Kie Kennel during six USDA inspections in a row. On August 28, 2013, USDA inspectors found dogs kept in a hot building that had a heat index over 102 degrees Fahrenheit, even though they had visited twice already during the same week and warned the licensee to correct the condition. On one of those visits, the heat index was measured by Kestrel thermometer at over 109 degrees (Aug. 27, 2013). During all three visits in August 2013, the inspector noted that dogs were showing signs of heat stress and were panting heavily. Several of the dogs were pugs, which have very low ability to tolerate heat. The pugs were seen with “heavy panting” and “dry, spoon-shaped tongues.” The problem was finally addressed in September. In April 2013, USDA inspectors noted no fewer than ten dogs in need of veterinary treatment, including dogs with hair loss and signs of eye and dental infections. Lar-Kie Kennel did manage to pass one routine inspection in January 2014. In February 2014, the USDA fined Hines \$2,679.00 for five of the violations that occurred in 2013. USDA # 46-A-0233.
- **Cindy Hubers, Da-Pa Kli Kennels, Harrison, SD – Dog had greenish discharge covering entire eye.** In May 2013, a USDA inspector found multiple dogs in need of veterinary care at Da-Pa Kli Kennels, including a Lhasa Apso with “green-tinged mucus covering the entire eyeball” and several other dogs with “eye discolorations and/or mucus film over the eye.” The inspector also noted a Havanese with a “golf-ball size of matted hair and fecal material dangling” from his rear which was “causing obvious discomfort” and a shih tzu with large areas of missing fur and unhealed wounds, among other problems. Earlier in the year, the facility had received an official warning from the USDA (March 2013) for repeatedly failing to make the facility available for inspection. USDA #46-A-0112/4985.
- **Jason Riggs, Ethan, SD – USDA found thin and injured dogs.** The USDA gave Riggs an official warning in November 2013 for repeated veterinary issues, but recent inspection reports show that violations continued even after the warning. In January 2014, a USDA inspector found no less than seven dogs in need of veterinary care at Jason Riggs’ facility, including dogs with foot injuries, dental problems and open wounds, and two dogs who were very thin with their ribs and skeletal structures showing. In addition, a miniature pinscher with puppies was also found on 1” by 1” wire flooring, which was causing the puppies’ legs to get trapped in the wire. USDA #46-A-0404.



## TEXAS

- **Ashley Anderson, Celebrity Puppy Boutique, aka Boutique Teacup Puppies, San Antonio/ Spring Ranch, TX – Imported puppies with numerous consumer complaints.** Anderson has moved across several states and has had numerous different business names, but all of her businesses have involved selling tiny imported puppies. Anderson currently sells extremely expensive “teacup” puppies through her website, Boutique Teacup Puppies, [boutiqueteacupuppies.com](http://boutiqueteacupuppies.com). Despite legislation that was passed as part of the 2008 Farm Bill prohibiting the import of puppies under six months of age for resale, Anderson freely admitted on her website as recently as March 2014 that she imports puppies from Asia. Many of the puppies she advertises for sale are about 12 weeks old, according to the birth dates listed on the Boutique Teacup Puppies website. On the website’s “About Us” tab, the owner states: “We work with a very close friend in Asia to provide you with the best of the best. Our puppies are very different than what you can find here in the USA.”
  - In addition to apparently violating the import rules, Anderson also does not appear to have a USDA license to sell puppies sight-unseen over the Internet. Ashley Anderson has a long list of aliases including Celebrity Puppy Boutique LLC, World Class Yorkies, Nightingale Bullies, World Class Bulldogs, MS Puppy Connection (in Mississippi), Puppy Petite Boutique and Dream Maker Kittens. There are numerous complaints online about sick puppies purchased from Anderson, and The HSUS has received four complaints from puppy buyers about Anderson.
  - Before moving her business to Texas, Anderson operated in Mississippi. After the Mississippi Attorney General’s Office received complaints about Anderson’s puppy and kitten sales, according to public records, Anderson signed an April 2013 settlement agreement that acknowledged, “the Attorney General has reason to believe that Anderson made false, deceptive and misleading representations and engaged in conduct in violation of the Mississippi Consumer Protection Act” related to sick puppies she allegedly sold to consumers. Anderson entered into a voluntary agreement that required her to pay back more than \$17,000 to five different complainants.
- **Susan Franz, Belton, TX – Dogs’ feces were crawling with live worms; violations cited at last five USDA inspections.** Severe problems at Franz’s kennel have been found during every one of her USDA inspections, including four different noncompliant USDA inspections in 2013 alone with a total of 18 different violations cited by federal inspectors, and one noncompliant inspection in March 2014 at which seven violations were noted. During the March 2014 inspection, USDA found a dog suffering from dehydration, puppies with their feet falling through wire flooring (a serious injury and entrapment risk), and dirty conditions. In December 2013, three dogs were found with hair loss or abnormal masses; piles of abnormal-looking feces on the floor of one kennel were crawling with live worms; and dogs were found with inadequate protection from the rain or cold. Issues noted at previous inspections included repeat violations for fleas and dirty conditions, repeat violations for unsafe outdoor housing and food that was caked, deteriorating or contaminated. USDA # 74-A-1475.

## WISCONSIN

- **Alvin Martin, Pine Hollow Farm, LLC, Withee, WI – Puppy with perforated eye likely in “pain and discomfort,” per inspector.** In March 2013, state inspectors visited Pine Hollow Farm to follow up on a complaint about the sale of puppies with eye injuries and other health problems. They found an 8-week-old puppy with a “corneal perforation.” The inspector noted that “the eye had noticeable leakage from the center of the cornea” and that Martin was attempting to treat the eye himself with ointments. The inspector noted that “the condition likely led to limited or lost vision in the eye, as well as pain and discomfort.” The inspector noted a few days after the inspection that Martin had turned the puppy over to an animal shelter “where it would receive adequate veterinary care.” An inspection in May 2013 also found excessive amounts of feces and other problems.

In addition to the problems noted in state inspections, federal inspectors have documented similar violations. In 2014, 2013 and 2012 the USDA found animals in need of veterinary care at Pine Hollow Farm, including a Boston Terrier with a “cloudy film over its left eye,” a dog with hair loss, and dogs with dental problems and missing teeth. Pine Hollow Farm may be one of the largest puppy mills in the state, with almost 400 dogs and puppies counted during a recent USDA inspection (2/11/14). USDA #35-B-0205.

- **John Zeiset, Lone Pine Kennels, Thorpe, WI – Severely matted dogs’ condition was “likely to cause discomfort and pain,” per inspector.** In August 2013, a state kennel inspector noted that several adult dogs at Lone Pine Kennels were in need of care, including some who were so badly matted that matted fur “covered the entire length of their back,” one dog who was so badly matted that it seemed to be impairing her ability to see, and another who had dried feces adhered to the matted fur. Multiple other dogs were found with signs of advanced dental disease, including missing teeth. Unsanitary and unsafe conditions were also noted. A follow-up state inspection in November 2013 found a number of issues that still had not been corrected, including repeatedly housing puppies on 1” by 1” wire flooring, which is a significant injury or entrapment risk, and a failure to demonstrate that animals were being properly vaccinated and treated.

In addition to the state oversight, Lone Pine Kennels is also USDA-licensed, but rarely lets USDA inspectors in. The USDA has been to Lone Pine Kennels nine times since January 2011, but they were only able to inspect the kennel on two of those occasions. USDA # 35-A-0224.

## Methodology

It is not possible to list all of the problematic puppy mills in the country in a single report. Due to the patchwork of laws across the U.S. and spotty enforcement, many puppy mills are not licensed or regulated and very little information on them exists. The facilities listed in this report were selected to demonstrate common problems and conditions at puppy mills and puppy mill brokers across the United States. The sellers listed in this year’s report were selected based upon a number of factors, which included, but were not limited to:

- The availability of state and/or federal kennel inspection reports showing violations, or related documents received via public records requests;
  - The quantity of violations found on those reports and/or the severity of violations, especially those affecting animal safety and health;
  - The fact that the facility had not already been included in the previous year’s “Horrible Hundred” report;
  - The availability of consumer complaints or photographs;
  - Any known judicial decisions, such as consumer lawsuits;
  - USDA official warnings or fines; and
  - Indications that the facility appeared to be in business at the time of publication.
- Some puppy mills were not listed because they are under active investigation.
  - If a breeding facility is not listed in this report, it may be due to a lack of available records and/or a lack of space, not a lack of significant problems.
  - Some brokers or re-sellers were included because many brokers are also breeders; also many individuals who re-sell puppies online sight-unseen are required to comply with the federal Animal Welfare Act, unlike retail pet stores;
  - Retail pet stores were only listed if they also claim to be breeding dogs.

Persons who have purchased a sick puppy whom they believe many have come from a puppy mill may report it to the USDA using their online form at [aphis.usda.gov/animal\\_welfare/aw\\_complaint\\_form.shtml](https://aphis.usda.gov/animal_welfare/aw_complaint_form.shtml) and to The

HSUS at [humanesociety.org/puppycomplaint](http://humanesociety.org/puppycomplaint). They may also consider filing a complaint with the breeder's state department of agriculture.

## APPENDIX: Updates to the 2013 Horrible Hundred

### AR

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**Barbara Gullett/Gullett Kennel – Russellville, AR: STILL HORRIBLE.** After appearing on last year's Horrible Hundred list, Gullett Kennel was cited for additional violations of the Animal Welfare Act in June 2013, including expired medications and unclean conditions. USDA #71-A-0748.

**Tanni Morris/ Tanni's Precious Paws – Charleston, AR: STILL HORRIBLE.** After appearing on last year's Horrible Hundred list, Tanni's Precious Paws was cited for additional, repeated violations of the Animal Welfare Act at three more USDA inspections in 2013. In December 2013 she was cited for a "repeat, direct NCI" for a Yorkie in need of veterinary care who was not properly treated as instructed, and in November 2013 four dogs were found in need of veterinary treatment, including a Sheltie who "was noticeably thin on visual exam despite her long haircoat." An "open sewer" of waste was also found draining into a ditch from the kennel, among other problems. USDA #71-A-1287.

**Gerald Watts – Marshall, AR: NO NEW VIOLATIONS.** The kennel passed its January 2014 USDA inspection. USDA #71-A-1095.

**Sarah Young/Clear Springs Kennel – Hardy, AR: STILL HORRIBLE.** Two USDA inspections in March 2014 and February 2014 found additional severe violations, including a "Direct NCI" (the most serious type of issue recorded) for two dogs with veterinary problems; one appeared "thin to the point of spine and hip bones protruding" and the other had a bloody wound (Feb. 2014). A third dog was found with apparent eye and dental disease (March 2014). USDA # 71-A-0676.

### CA

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**Jenny Um/ Best Kennel – Littlerock, CA: STILL HORRIBLE.** Although her USDA license (# 93-A-0234) was cancelled and her former website is down, Um is still offering large numbers of puppies for sale under the name Fancy Puppies. Um sells on websites such as [puppyfind.com](http://puppyfind.com) and [fancypuppy.net](http://fancypuppy.net). As another indication that she is still selling puppies, a buyer contacted The HSUS in October 2013 to report that she had purchased a sick puppy from the kennel and witnessed poor conditions, but the complainant did not follow up when asked for further information.

### GA

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**Kathryn Barber/ K-Bar Kennels – Patterson, GA: NO NEW VIOLATIONS.** After a series of issues in 2013 which culminated in quarantine due to infectious disease, the state's quarantine was lifted in May 24, 2013. The kennel did not fail any more state inspections in 2013. No new information was available for 2014 as of 2/21/14.

### IL

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**Philip Chupp/ Oak Valley Kennel – McLeansboro, IL: STILL HORRIBLE.** The kennel was cited for additional violations of the Animal Welfare Act in May 2013 for rusty cage floors, mouse feces throughout the kennel, and a Yorkie in need of veterinary care; the license was cancelled in July 2013, but Chupp acquired a new USDA license in September 2013. Under the new license number, Chupp failed one pre-license inspection in September 2013 for flooring so rusty that it had broken apart in some areas. No new issues were documented for the remainder of 2013 and the facility did pass one USDA inspection in January 2014; however, The HSUS has concerns that those who check Chupp's record under the new license number will not get a full picture of the kennel's history. (NEW USDA # 33-A-0542; old USDA # 33-A-0497).

**Tammy Coglaine/ Puppy Parlor (aka Poochie Puppy Parlor) – Lisle, IL: CLOSED.** The storefront is closed and a local rescue group reportedly took in all the breeding dogs, per local news articles. [lakeview.patch.com/groups/around-town/p/35-dogs-rescued-from-suburban-puppy-mill-one-of-100-worst-in-us](http://lakeview.patch.com/groups/around-town/p/35-dogs-rescued-from-suburban-puppy-mill-one-of-100-worst-in-us).

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## IN

**Marlin Bontrager—Rome City, IN: NO NEW VIOLATIONS.** A USDA report states that total number of dogs has been reduced and kennel is being renovated. USDA #32-A-0260.

**Elam Fisher/ Morgan Creek Kennel – Williamsburg, IN: NO NEW INFORMATION.** The USDA has reported no new inspections in 2013 or 2014, so current conditions are unknown. Still licensed under USDA # 32-A-0298.

**Kathryn and Vernon Lambright/ Clearspring Kennels – Wolcottville, IN: NO NEW VIOLATIONS.** "Attempted" inspection violation in June 2013; an August 2013 inspection was compliant. USDA #32-A-0253.

**Elmer Lapp/ Pine Hill Kennel – Hagerstown, IN: NO NEW VIOLATIONS.** A USDA inspection in October 2013 was compliant; no new violations have been reported since that date. USDA #32-A-0363.

**Steven Lapp – Modoc, IN: STILL HORRIBLE.** Since our last report, the kennel was cited for additional serious violations, including animals in need of veterinary care in Sept 2013. In April 2014, the USDA documented concerns about a high puppy death rate. A USDA inspection report from 4/1/14 noted: "According to puppy records, on 11-19-2013 five Maltese puppies were born dead and premature, and on 2-10-2014 seven Lhasa Apso puppies were born weak and died over 1-2 days. There [were] also additional unexplained puppy deaths documented over the past six months. The licensee had noticed the unexplained puppy deaths [but] a veterinarian was not contacted." USDA #32-A-0356.

**Larry Miller/ Railside Canine, Millersburg, IN: APPEARS CLOSED.** Miller's USDA license was cancelled in September 2013, but someone in the same town with a similar name obtained a new license that same day under 32-B-0222. However, the new license was also cancelled in March 2014. Former USDA #32-A-0332 / 32-B-0222.

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## IA

**David and Joane Cline – Sully, IA: STILL HORRIBLE.** USDA inspectors found additional repeat violations in July 2013 and subsequently fined the operation \$2,429 for failure to provide adequate veterinary care. The kennel passed one inspection in November 2013. No new USDA inspections have been reported in 2014 as of 4/10/14. USDA #42-A-1420.

**Doug and Wendie Dettbarn/ Purple Heart Kennel – Strawberry Point, IA: STILL HORRIBLE.** USDA inspectors found additional violations in May 2013. No new inspections were found in 2014. USDA #42-A-1328.

**Gary Felts/ Black Diamond Kennel – Kingsley, IA: STILL HORRIBLE.** USDA inspectors found additional violations in November 2013 and March 2014. The March 2014 inspection found a total of six violations, five of which were repeat violations. USDA #42-A-0757.

**Connie and Harold Johnson/ CW's Quaint Critters – Melvin, IA: STILL HORRIBLE.** USDA inspectors found an additional violation in September 2013 for dirty conditions. No new inspections have been conducted in 2014. USDA #42-B-0226.

**Kenneth and Leatrice McGuire – North English, IA: STILL HORRIBLE.** The USDA found an additional repeat violation in June 2013. The McGuire's USDA license was cancelled in October 2013, but the kennel is still state licensed in 2014. Former USDA #42-A-0830.

**Debra Pratt – New Sharon, IA: APPEARS CLOSED.** The state of Iowa revoked the kennel's license in August 2013 and Pratt was fined \$7,200.00, one of the largest fines of its kind in state history, according to news reports. Pratt's USDA class A breeder license was cancelled in December 2013, but she still holds a class H "handler" license. The HSUS has contacted the USDA to voice concerns about Pratt holding any form of animal care or handling license. Former USDA # 42-A-1399 and current USDA # 42-H-0005.

**Lennie and Lonnie Rumley/ Tripple L Kennels – Leon, IA: STILL HORRIBLE.** The facility continued its history of failing to make the property accessible to USDA inspectors in 2013, which is a violation. No new inspections have been performed in 2013 or 2014, according to the USDA's online database. #42-A-1447. The kennel is still state licensed.

**Linda Thorpe/ Sky Blue Ranch, Inc. – Winterset, IA: APPEARS CLOSED.** New violations were recorded by USDA inspectors in January 2013. Thorpe's class A breeder license was cancelled in Sept. 2013 and she does not hold a state license. But she still holds an "H" handler license with the USDA, which is a concern. Former USDA #42-A-1140 and current #42-H-0006.

## **KS**

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**Larry and Yvette Bolz/ B & S Kennels – Olpe, KS: STILL HORRIBLE.** USDA inspectors found additional violations in June 2013. A November 2013 USDA inspection was compliant, but the kennel failed a December 2013 Kansas state inspection due to four different problems, including unsafe housing and inadequate weather protection for the dogs. The USDA issued an official warning in February 2014 for continued failure to clean enclosures. USDA #48-A-1582.

**Marla and Roger Campbell– Newton, KS: STILL HORRIBLE.** Additional violations were recorded by USDA inspectors during three visits in 2013 and a fourth visit in January 2014. The 2014 violations included two dogs in need of veterinary care due to injuries. In February 2014, The USDA announced that it was entering into a pre-litigation settlement agreement with the Campbells related to their alleged violations. They were fined \$6,643 in September 2013. USDA #48-A-1549.

**Kathy and William Clarke/ Clarke's Hillside Kennel – Yates Center, KS: STILL HORRIBLE.** Additional violations were recorded by USDA inspectors during three visits in 2013. USDA #48-A-1275.



**Tim Deters – Baileyville, KS: STILL HORRIBLE.** Additional repeat and severe violations were cited by USDA inspectors during multiple visits in 2013. Deters' license was cancelled in January 2014, but he immediately acquired a new USDA license under a new customer number under the name Dusty Road Kennel, #48-A-2150. Former USDA #48-A-1801.

**Dianne Dick/ Puppie Trails Kennels – Rossville, KS: STILL HORRIBLE.** Additional repeat violations reported by USDA inspectors in June 2013; still licensed. USDA #48-A-1237.

**Justin and LaNae Jackson/ Jackson Kennels – Clifton, KS: STILL HORRIBLE.** USDA inspectors found six pages of additional repeat violations in June 2013. An attempt by USDA to re-inspect in Dec 2013 resulted in no access (a violation). The licensee also failed an October 2013 state inspection, during which numerous injured and underweight dogs were documented, as well as filthy and unsafe conditions. The license is still active as of March 2014. USDA #48-A-1849.

**Darlene and Charlene Koster/ Rainbow Ranch Kennel – Minneapolis, KS: STILL HORRIBLE.** Additional violations were documented by USDA inspectors in June 2013 and in February 2014, including a severely matted dog, dogs in the winter cold without adequate protection and puppies who had feces mixed in with their food. Still licensed, #48-B-0271.

**Keith and Lila Ratzlaff – Canton, KS: STILL HORRIBLE.** After a total of four attempts to inspect the facility in 2013, during which the licensee repeatedly failed to make the facility available for inspection (a repeat violation), USDA inspectors finally accessed the facility in October 2013. Ratzlaff was cited for one issue with failing to adequately identify puppies. USDA #48-A-1793.

**Audrey Rottinghaus / Wendy Pets – Seneca, KS: NO NEW VIOLATIONS.** No new violations on USDA reports. USDA #48-B-0313.

**Krystal and Sandra Rottinghaus – Seneca, KS: STILL HORRIBLE.** Multiple new violations were reported by USDA inspectors in August 2013. In addition, HSUS researchers found that Sandra Rottinghaus, who is not listed on the USDA license, has been selling numerous puppies to pet stores and identifying herself as a "hobby breeder," even though she is not listed on the USDA license after losing a previous federal license in her name. Sandra Rottinghaus is selling more breeds than a USDA-exempt "hobby" breeder would be able to produce (the USDA requires individuals who breed more than four females to acquire a license if they sell to pet stores or online). The HSUS reported these concerns to Kansas and federal officials in April 2014. USDA #48-A-2120.

**Helen Shelly/ Shadyhill Kennel – Hiawatha, KS: NO NEW INFORMATION.** The kennel's website is still active and it still holds a state kennel license. The facility offers puppies for sale online via *shadyhillpups.homestead.com*.

## **MN**

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**Carole and Larry Harries/ Harries K-9 Ranch – Alpha, MN : APPEARS TO BE CLOSED.** USDA inspectors documented additional repeat violations in June 2013. The license was cancelled in June 2013. USDA# 41-A-0023.

**Ted Johnson / Funtime Kennels – Windom, MN: STILL HORRIBLE.** USDA inspectors documented additional repeat violations in April 2013, including dogs who appeared to have severe veterinary problems. When they attempted to access the kennel in January 2014, the kennel was not made available for inspection. It has now been more than a year and there has been no new inspection, leading The HSUS to have serious concerns about conditions at the kennel (3/18/14). # 41-A-0466.

**Wanda Kretzman / Clearwater Kennel Inc. – Cushing, MN: STILL HORRIBLE.** USDA inspectors found additional violations in June 2013 and February 2014 at Clearwater Kennel. The February 2014 violations included a strong ammonia (urine) odor, rodent feces near the dogs' food, and excessive dog feces in the enclosures that left "limited areas for the dogs to walk or stand without coming into contact" with their own wastes. USDA #41-B-0190.

**John & Lyle Renner/ Renner's Kennel – Detroit Lakes, MN: STILL HORRIBLE.** USDA inspectors found numerous additional violations in June 2013 and again in February 2014, including injured animals who needed to be seen by a vet and who were not treated by the operator despite a prior warning and a strong ammonia (urine) odor in two of the buildings which caused USDA inspectors "a burning sensation in our throats," according to the reports. USDA # 41-A-0248.

## MO

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**Pamela Baldwin/ Samples Creek Kennel – Edgar Springs, MO: STILL HORRIBLE.** Both USDA and MO state inspectors found multiple additional violations in 2013 at Samples Creek Kennel. State violations included dirty conditions, contaminated water, and many dogs who appeared sick or injured, including a female dachshund who was unable to walk on her back legs (5/16/13) and a jack russell terrier who had leg and foot injuries so severe that the open wound exposed muscle and bone (10/01/13). USDA #43-A-4762.

**Edward Cannon/ E. Cannon Kennels – Novinger, MO: NO NEW VIOLATIONS.** The facility passed a USDA inspection in March 2014 and had no state violations affecting the dog side of the kennel. There was one record-keeping violation in the cattery. USDA #43-A-4206.

**Tina Carr/ Simply Puppies – Hannibal, MO: STILL HORRIBLE.** Four state inspections in 2013 found a total of more than a dozen different violations at Simply Puppies, including puppies with bloody stools, matted or injured dogs, excessive feces and flies, and a "pungent ammonia [urine] smell" (Oct. 1, 2013), among other issues. The facility had almost 200 dogs and puppies on the premises at its most recent inspection. USDA #43-A-5672.

**Brandi Cheney/ Circle B Farms, LLC – Huntsville, MO: STILL HORRIBLE.** A Missouri state inspector found a dead wheaton terrier inside one of Cheney's cages in May 2013. One of the other dogs in the same cage had "blood on her head and body" from puncture wounds, according to the inspection report. At the same visit, inspectors noted rodent droppings, unsanitary conditions, and other problems. In March 2014, a USDA inspector found puppies with their feet falling through 1" by 1" gaps in the flooring, a significant injury and entrapment risk. USDA #43-B-3698 and previous #43-B-0435.

**Kimberly Coleman/ TLC's Kennel – Clinton, MO: STILL HORRIBLE.** A March 2014 USDA inspection and a January 2014 state inspection found many severe problems at TLC's kennel, including many underweight dogs. During the March 2014 USDA inspection, a veterinary medical officer noted a morkie was "extremely thin with minimal muscle mass so that nearly all her bones (shoulders, spine, ribs, hips, legs, etc) were prominent," and could be seen even through the dog's long hair. During the same inspection, a shih tzu was found with lesions on both eyes, and two dogs were seen coughing. During the January 2014 state inspection, inspectors noted that several dogs had a body condition score of only 2 or 3 out of 9, indicating that they were seriously underweight. Some dogs also seemed to be sick or injured. Inspections also found unsafe conditions, and it was noted that multiple issues had not been corrected after several warnings. The operation was fined \$100 on 1/10/2014. The kennel houses more than 300 dogs and puppies, according to state records. USDA #43-A-4973.

**Lou Cox/ Lou's Country Kennel – Chillicothe, MO: APPEARS CLOSED.** This kennel is no longer on Missouri state license lists as of April 2014.

**Marsha Cox/ Mar-Don Kennel – Chillicothe, MO: NEW VIOLATION.** Although Cox's USDA license was revoked in 2011 after a history of animal care violations, the kennel is still state licensed as of April 2014 and had more than 300 dogs and puppies on the premises during its May 2013 state inspection. Allegedly, the puppies are not sold to pet stores, brokers or online; otherwise, the facility would be required to obtain a USDA license again. It's unclear how a kennel in such a remote part of the country would be able to sell such a large number of puppies (79 puppies were on the premises during its last inspection) without selling the animals to brokers, pet stores, or over the Internet. The kennel was cited for one housing issue during its May 2013 state inspection, but there was no mention of how the puppies are being sold. State lic. #CB-907.

**Kenneth Dake and Deborah Dake/ Dake's Kennels – Dixon, MO: REVOKED; APPEARS CLOSED.** USDA inspectors found additional, multiple repeat violations at the kennel in August and December 2013. During several different dates in 2013, MO state inspectors also noted serious issues at the kennel, including a dead, decomposing puppy found on the roof of a dog house in May 2013, which the licensee admitted he had tossed there a month earlier. State inspection reports indicate this horrific kennel was selling to the Hunte Corporation (March 2013) and Mid-America Pets (January 2013). As of March 2014, Dake's license was revoked by the USDA, and Dake's Kennel is no longer on state license lists as of April 2014. USDA # 43-A-5402.

**LeRoy Detweiler/ Sunset Ridge Kennel – Princeton, MO: STILL HORRIBLE.** USDA inspectors found additional housing violations in August 2013, and a state inspection in May 2013 found dogs who did not have adequate space. #43-A-5786.

**Miriam and Neal Feldkamp—Lewistown, MO: STILL HORRIBLE.** After many additional repeat violations were documented by USDA inspectors in May 2013 and September 2013, the license under "Miriam and Neal Feldkamp" was cancelled in December 2013 – yet a new license under Neal's name only, using the same address, was opened that same month, under USDA #43-A-5828. It is unclear why the USDA would allow a licensee to open a new license number at the same address, when the most recent license number had ongoing repeat violations. The HSUS has reported concerns to USDA about this dealer being granted a new license when the old one was repeatedly noncompliant. State inspectors also found violations at the Feldkamp kennel in April and May 2013. USDA #43-A-5828.

**Rhonda Gear/ Country Babies – Galt, MO: NEW VIOLATION.** Missouri state inspectors cited the kennel for a cleaning issue in May 2013. No new USDA violations have been reported since the last Horrible Hundred report and a USDA inspection on 7/16/13 was compliant. USDA #43-B-3613.

**Mary Foster and Cathy Griesbauer/ Country Pets – Montgomery City, MO: STILL HORRIBLE.** USDA inspectors documented additional, repeat violations at this kennel in December 2013, including many animals with untreated veterinary problems, yet the kennel remains licensed in 2014. In addition, state-level inspectors found numerous issues during several different inspections in 2013, including underweight, sick and injured dogs, dirty conditions, excessive feces and inadequate shelter. In October 2013 the licensee reportedly admitted to a state inspector that she didn't have enough housing to shelter all the dogs; the facility housed almost 900 dogs and puppies, according to the state inspection report. In December 2013, state inspectors found several injured dogs, and the inspector noted that one of the dogs she had instructed the licensee to have examined by a vet in October still apparently hadn't been treated. In March 2014, a state inspection report found that some issues had been corrected, but several new ones were found, including dogs who were wet outside when the temperature was only in the 20s, a dog with a bloody wound and dogs who were matted and had long toenails

that could “cause discomfort and possible veterinary issues,” according to the inspection report. USDA #43-A-1843.

**Beverly Hargis/Hargis’ Sunshines Kennel – Hallsville, MO: STILL HORRIBLE.** A state inspection in October 2013 found numerous problems, including dogs with overgrown nails that “can cause discomfort and possible veterinary issues” and a puppy whose eye was “bright pink and swollen in the corner.” No new USDA violations have been recorded since our last report and a November 2013 USDA inspection was compliant. USDA # 43-A-0209.

**Renee Horton/ Horton Kennel – Curryville, MO: NEW VIOLATIONS.** Horton’s USDA license was cancelled in July 2013 but Horton’s Kennel is still state licensed as of April 2014. A May 2013 inspection found “Cocker Spaniels that had long hair that was beginning to tangle and cause matting.” In October 2013, state inspectors found that the cockers had been groomed as requested, but there was an issue with holes in the outdoor pens. Prev. USDA #43-A-2675

**Wilma Jinson/ Jinson Kennel – Stella, MO: STILL HORRIBLE.** Additional serious animal welfare violations were recorded by USDA inspectors in December 2013 and August 2013 at Jinson Kennel, including dogs with veterinary problems, infestations of roaches, fleas and flies and filthy conditions. Missouri state inspectors also noted several dogs in need of veterinary care in 2013, including a schnauzer with a paw wound that “appeared raw with a pus-like discharge,” a miniature pinscher who “has hair loss all over her body, [looks] lethargic and and appears swollen (all over body),” among other problems. USDA #43-A-2656.

**Wendy Laymon/ Shadow Mountain Kennel – Rogersville, MO: APPEARS CLOSED.** After being cited for multiple serious animal care violations by state inspectors in 2013, including dogs with tumors, hair loss, crusting skin and injuries, this kennel appears to have closed. It is no longer on state license lists as of April 2014. Laymon did indicate to a state inspector that she had given a number of animals “to someone else to raise puppies for her” (10/31/13), but she refused to identify the recipient. Laymon may still be selling online, but no ads have been found that could be directly linked to her.

**Rose Marlow/ Pet Degree Ranch – Wellsville, MO: STILL HORRIBLE.** USDA inspectors recorded multiple repeat violations at Pet Degree Ranch in September 2013 and January 2014. Inspectors reported that the licensee refused to sign the January inspection report, and when they returned to the kennel in March 2014, the facility was not made available for inspection (another violation), yet the facility is still USDA licensed as of 4/20/14.

Missouri state inspectors found violations during at least two different visits in 2013, including dirty conditions and animal housing with rust and holes. USDA #43-A-4368.

**Tom Nelson/ Oak Ridge Pets – Macon, MO: STILL HORRIBLE.** USDA inspectors found a new violation in January 2014 for build-up of feces in enclosures, and state inspectors cited the kennel in May 2013 for cleaning and sanitation issues. USDA #43-B-3425.

**Joe Overlease/ C & J’s Cockers – Miller, MO: NEW VIOLATIONS.** In March 2014, Overlease applied for a USDA license. He failed the first pre-licensing inspection due to sanitation concerns and shoddy housing conditions. During the second pre-license inspection, the kennel passed inspection. It is now USDA licensed under # 43-A-5844.

**Valente Rios/ Rios Kennel – Galt, MO: STILL HORRIBLE.** USDA inspectors documented additional repeat violations in July 2013, and in December, the kennel was fined \$7,536 by the USDA. One USDA inspection in March 2014 was compliant, but The HSUS still has serious concerns about the kennel due to its history of mostly noncompliant inspections. USDA #43-A-5652.

**Donald Schrage/ Rabbit Ridge Kennel – Edina, MO: STILL HORRIBLE.** USDA inspectors continued to document repeat, severe violations at this kennel during multiple visits in 2013. The most recent inspection was in October 2013. The HSUS contacted the USDA in March 2014 to again express concerns about why this kennel is still in business when it has repeatedly failed to meet even the most basic animal care standards. USDA #43-A-1957.

**Amos Schwartz – Princeton, MO: NEW VIOLATION.** USDA inspectors have documented no additional violations since our last report, but a state inspection in May 2013 found six dogs who did not have the required amount of space required under the law. USDA # 43-A-5349.

**Kaye and William Waddell – Montgomery City, MO: NEW VIOLATION.** USDA inspectors have documented no additional violations since our last report, but a state inspection in May 2013 found several dogs in need of grooming, with hair beginning to tangle and form mats. USDA #43-A-0439.

**Joyce Young/ Young's Ozark Kennel – Pottersville, MO: APPEARS CLOSED.** USDA License cancelled in May 2013. The kennel is no longer on state license lists as of April 2014. Former USDA #43-A-4644.

## NE

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**Barbara Crick / Cricks Kennels – Burwell, NE: STILL HORRIBLE.** State inspection reports show that serious animal care problems continued at this kennel as of the most recent state inspection in June 2013. Issues found included excessive feces, and unsanitary conditions dogs found without food or water (some bowls that did have water in them had green algae in the water). The USDA found a violation in July 2013 for dogs kept in a trailer with a leaking ceiling. A USDA attempted inspection in December 2013 resulted in failure to give access to inspectors. USDA #47-A-0426.

**Linda Hager – Crab Orchard, NE: STILL HORRIBLE.** After the licensee failed to make her kennel available to USDA inspectors during their last seven attempts, USDA finally gained access for an inspection in March 2014. At that time, no fewer than 54 dogs were found in need of veterinary care. One of the dogs, “Evie,” a nursing papillon, seemed to have a mastitis-like condition, according to the USDA’s report. The breeder claimed that Evie had been given Baytril, but she had not taken her to a vet. One of Evie’s two puppies died during the USDA’s inspection. Other dogs were found to be underweight or suffering from lumps, swellings, injuries, eye and skin disorders and infections.

In addition, Nebraska state inspection reports obtained by The HSUS show that severe problems were documented again and again at the kennel by state inspectors in both 2013 and early 2014, during the time that USDA inspectors were repeatedly unable to access the kennel. Public records show that Linda Hager and co-licensee Edward Ruyle were notified three times by state inspectors in 2014 that the facility was not being properly cleaned and that they did not have enough employees to properly care for more than 180 dogs on the premises (1/13/14, 1/27/14, 2/20/14).

The HSUS communicated concerns to USDA about this chronically problematic kennel in 2012, 2013 and again in March 2014 shortly before its most recent inspection. USDA #47-A-0410.

**Janice and Steph McCutcheon and Krystal Wulf – Guide Rock NE: STILL HORRIBLE.** The license under USDA #47-A-0553 was cancelled in July 2013. However, in January 2014 a facility in Mankato, Kansas under the name “Steph McCutcheon” applied for a state “retail breeder” license, indicating that it will sell only directly to the public. State records note that the breeder “is closing this facility, since she dropped USDA license. Licensee is applying for a retail breeder license.” The new license is under a Steph McCutcheon’s name as well as the business name **LKL Kennels**, but the kennel failed two state pre-inspections in January and March 2014 due to



numerous different issues, including unsanitary conditions, unsafe housing and dogs kept in below freezing temperatures at night without adequate bedding.

In addition, a USDA license under the name “Chad Wulf” is still active at the same Nebraska address. Chad Wulf’s Kennel, #47-A-0596, had violations in June 2013 for unsanitary conditions and odor problems.

## NY

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**Clara and Dan Byler/ Bylers Kennel – Troupsburg, NY: APPEARS CLOSED.** Its USDA license has been cancelled and there appears to be no state license for this kennel. Former USDA #21-A-0150.

**Rebecca Graber – Waterloo, NY: STILL HORRIBLE.** USDA inspectors continued to find multiple violations at this kennel as recently as November 2013. It has not been inspected in 2014. USDA # 21-A-0159.

**Raymond Hoover/ Double R Kennel – Dundee, NY: NO NEW INFORMATION.** No new inspections have been reported by USDA since our last report. USDA #21-A-0065.

**Alvin Shirk/ A & L Kennels – Dundee, NY: STILL HORRIBLE.** USDA inspectors documented multiple additional violations in July 2013. USDA #21-A-0080.

**Aaron Zimmerman – Dundee, NY: NO NEW INFORMATION.** The USDA has not inspected the kennel since our last report. USDA #21-A-0075.

**Nathan Zimmerman – Penn Yan, NY: NO NEW VIOLATIONS.** No new violations have been recorded by USDA as of January 2014, when the kennel passed an inspection. USDA #21-A-0103.

## NC

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**Roger and Marilyn Hall/ Royal Acres Kennel – Magnolia, NC: CLOSED.** Sick and injured dogs have been removed from the kennel on multiple occasions, and the owner pled guilty to animal cruelty charges and has gone out of business.

**Joe and Cynthia Williams/ NC Great Danes, aka Promise Land Danes – Wilson, NC: CLOSED.** According to local news sources, the breeder is no longer in business.

## OH

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**Harvey Burkholder/ H & A Kennels – Shiloh, OH: NO NEW VIOLATIONS.** Still licensed with no new violations recorded by USDA at last inspection (October 2013). USDA #31-A-0061.

**Tom Coleman/ Lone Oak Kennel – Danville, OH: NO NEW INFORMATION.** Local contacts reported that the kennel is going out of business, however it acquired a 2014 county kennel license under a new name, Egaro, LLC.

**Vicky Galle/ Purrfect Endings Farms – Mt Vernon, OH: NO NEW INFORMATION.** Galle cancelled her USDA license in 2010, but she continued to hold a Knox County, Ohio license in 2014. USDA #31-B-0154.

**Lanzie “Junior” Horton – Millersburg, OH: NO NEW INFORMATION.** USDA fines for repeatedly selling puppies wholesale without a USDA license were increased to more than \$100,000 in 2013. Still holds a county license in 2014.

**Isaac Martin – Shiloh, OH: NO NEW VIOLATIONS.** No new violations were reported at last inspection. USDA #31-A-0015.

**Dan Mast/ Pine Grove Kennel– Millersburg, OH: CLOSED.** This kennel appears to have shut down. In March 2013, APHIS officials removed dogs. Its USDA license was cancelled in February 2014. Former USDA #31-A-0241.

**David Miller/ Clear Springs Kennel – Millersburg, OH: SCANT INFORMATION.** Two violations for not giving access to inspectors in May and August 2013; compliant inspection in November 2013. USDA license #31-A-0149.

**Ervin Raber/ Golden View Kennels – Baltic, OH: SCANT INFORMATION.** One violation for not giving access to inspectors in May 2013; compliant inspection in August 2013. #31-A-0124.

**Jonas Raber/ Sunset Kennels – Millersburg, OH: SCANT INFORMATION.** One violation for not giving access to inspectors in May 2013; compliant inspection in August 2013. USDA #31-A-0235.

**Daniel Schlabach/Evergreen Designer LLC – Charm, OH: SCANT INFORMATION.** One violation for not giving access to inspectors in May 2013; compliant inspection in July 2013. USDA # 31-A-0412.

**Wayne Troyer – Sugarcreek, Ohio: STILL HORRIBLE.** USDA inspectors found a dying, unmoving puppy in July 2013, and reported after a follow-up visit that the puppy had been euthanized. There were no other new violations reported. USDA #31-A-0391.

**Abe Yoder/ YLA Kennels – Baltic, OH: NO NEW INFORMATION.** There have been no new inspections since May 2013. USDA #31-A-0420.

**Jacob Yoder/ Jay Kennels – Millersburg, OH: NO NEW VIOLATIONS.** There were no new violations found during a January 2014 USDA inspection. USDA # 31-A-0265.

**Owen Yoder – Millersburg, OH: SCANT INFORMATION.** The USDA cited the operator for failing to make the facility available for inspection in August 2013. There have been no other recent violations reported. USDA #31-A-0198.

**Roman Yoder – Baltic, OH: STILL HORRIBLE.** USDA inspectors continued to find numerous additional, repeat violations at the facility in May, September and December 2013. USDA #31-A-0269.

## **OK**

**Clarence Anderson – Locust Grove, OK: STILL HORRIBLE.** Anderson was cited by the USDA for failing to make the facility available for inspection in May 2013. There were no new violations found at an August 2013 inspection. In September 2013, the USDA fined Anderson \$3,179 for numerous violations that occurred in 2012 and 2013. In April 2014, Anderson’s USDA license was cancelled for unknown reasons, but he may still be licensed in the state. Former USDA #73-A-2549.

**Becky and Guy Franks/ First Class Puppies – Antlers, OK: STILL HORRIBLE.** The Franks’ USDA license was cancelled in May 2013 during an inspection where many significant problems were cited. However, they were still licensed by the state in Oklahoma as of March 2014. USDA #73-B-1838.

**Shirley Machin – Ada, OK: APPEARS CLOSED.** License cancelled in September 2013 after multiple repeat violations were found, many of them involving animals in dire need of veterinary attention. USDA #73-A-2522.

**Connie and Jimmy Jr. West/ West's Kennel – Strang, OK: STILL HORRIBLE.** Violation in December 2013 for flooring coming apart with sharp edges that could hurt the animals, per USDA reports. No new inspections in 2014. USDA #73-A-1872.

## PA

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**Henry and Nancy Swarey/ BowWow Hollow Pets – Mifflintown, PA: NO NEW VIOLATIONS.** No new USDA violations have been documented since our last report. A state inspection on 11/13/2013 was compliant. USDA #23-B-0190.

**Marlin Zimmerman/Turkey Hill – East Earl, PA: NEW VIOLATIONS.** The facility had a repeat USDA violation for a housekeeping issue cited in July 2013. There were no violations reported during an October 2013 inspection. A state inspection in June 2013 noted that a “72 hour vet check” had been “ordered during this inspection” but no other information or violations were documented in the report. USDA #23-A-0268.

## SD

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**Robert Engbrecht/Dakota Kennel– Marion, SD: NEW VIOLATION.** USDA Violation for unsafe flooring issue in July 2013; compliant USDA inspection in November 2013. USDA #46-A-0190.

**Gary Scheetz/ Lakeview Kennels, Inc. – Parkston, SD: NO NEW INFORMATION.** No updates available. Kennel is not licensed by USDA.

## TX

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**Melva Langford–Whitewright, TX: STILL HORRIBLE.** In March 2014, the USDA cited Langford for having rusty and dirty feeders and dog shelters that had “wet, smelly hay under their dry bedding hay,” as if clean bedding had been deposited on top of dirty bedding. The HSUS could find no record of this kennel possessing a state license. #74-A-1230.

**Pam Sims/ Pam’s Cockers and Schnauzers – Winnsboro, TX: NO NEW INFORMATION.**

## WV

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**West Virginia Puppy –Martinsburg, WV: STILL HORRIBLE.** Local authorities received new complaints this year about unacceptable conditions at West Virginia Puppy and removed 25 puppies due to poor conditions in March 2014. Several of the puppies were found to be underweight and filthy, while others had parasites or infections, according to local law enforcement. The HSUS once again expressed concerns to the USDA about the need for this facility and its breeders to be federally regulated (our first complaint was filed with USDA in 2009), especially since rules have changed regarding Internet sellers and this facility also conducts Internet sales. Article

about seized puppies: [journal-news.net/page/content.detail/id/605800/Officials-seize-25-puppies-from-Martinsburg-pet-business.html?nav=5222](http://journal-news.net/page/content.detail/id/605800/Officials-seize-25-puppies-from-Martinsburg-pet-business.html?nav=5222).

## WI

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**Gerald Schulz / Pretty Penny Kennel – Plymouth, WI: CLOSED.** The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture confirmed that this facility is no longer licensed, after a conditional license was denied on March 30, 2013.

## WY

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**Sharon Curless/ Ruff Pine Kennel – Pine Bluffs, WY: STILL HORRIBLE.** At a follow-up inspection in August 2013, USDA inspectors noted that four dogs had been euthanized after issues were pointed out during the previous inspection. This is not a violation of USDA regulations but it gives HSUS researchers continuing cause for concern. In April 2014, Curless cancelled her USDA license, but Ruff Pine Kennel still offers puppies for sale online via [ruffpinekennel.com/](http://ruffpinekennel.com/). Former USDA #83-A-0031.